ABOVE: Memorial trophy goes to young swimmer (See page 5).

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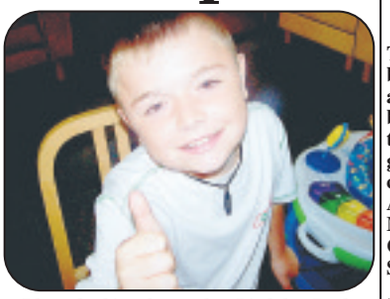
Rhys calls on public to join the Birthday Bash and boost his hospice

Ty Hafan children's hospice is asking groups, organisations and individuals to join in the fun between October 12 and November 1 and organise a Birthday Bash event to celebrate 10 years of care and 'being there' for life-limited children, young people and their families.



Rhys– looking forward to Birthday Bash.

RHYS JOYCE from Bridgend is looking forward to celebrating his birthday on October 16 when he will be 11.

Despite being diagnosed with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy at the age of four, Rhys has a sunny nature, a gorgeous smile and at Ty Hafan is generally know as the 'little cheeky chappie', a hospice spokeswoman told The GEM.

Like any child of his age, he enjoys his sessions on the Playstation and watching rugby – but his real passion is Formula One and he treasures the memory of meeting his hero, Jensen Button.

He had his first stay at Ty Hafan, the family hospice for young lives, a couple of years ago, when his condition began to deteriorate and getting around became more difficult for him.

"Rhys loves to go and stay at Ty Hafan and never wants to come home," said his mum Diane.

"Especially if he knows his mate Kyle Jenkins is going to be there as well – two monkeys together (double trouble)! I think he feels like a normal child when he is there as the boys are all the same as him."

"We let him go to Ty Hafan on his own as he doesn't want mum and dad there. It also gives us sometime on our own to do normal things with his younger brother Owain."

Fortunately, up until now, he has been able to enjoy mainstream school, spending his primary years at Brackla Junior where he was able to take part in PE and he really enjoyed his art lessons.

More recently, however, he has found coming to terms with his condition difficult, as his classmates are obviously moving on in their development and he sometimes feels a bit left behind.

But you can be sure that his family will be celebrating his birthday in style, so why not organise your own Birthday Bash event to raise funds that will make a world of difference to families like Rhys?

Ty Hafan's services are completely free of charge for families in Wales that need them, and millions of pounds have to be raised every year to make sure this continues.

For more information, contact Gaynor Taylor on 029 2067 2095 or visit www.tyhafan.org/birthdaybash

TWO ARRESTS AS POLICE PROBE SCHOOL BLAZE

TWO people have been arrested and are currently on bail as police continue their investigations into the cause of the fire at Archbishop McGrath RC Comprehensive School in Tondu.

The fire broke out in the early hours of last Wednesday and is being treated by police as suspicious.

Fifty firefighters battled with the blaze, which destroyed three classrooms and damaged the sports hall.

It started in the design and technology department at about 3am.

Eight houses at nearby Heol yr Ysgol and Bryn Road had to be evacuated because of fears that gas cylinders would explode.

The school was closed last week but re-opened to older pupils on Monday with the younger ones returning on Tuesday.

A police spokesman said that they were still appealing for witnesses, especially as a number of arson attacks took place in the neighbourhood at about the same time.

Attempts were made to start a fire at Ynysawdre school, on the adjoining site, and a van was also set alight at Heol yr Ysgol.

Temporary classrooms have now been put on site to accommodate children. Facilities at Ynysawdre are to be shared for a while.

The school is also being re-organised internally, with the staffroom becoming a classroom, and other changes taking place. Other schools in the area have been offering help to Archbishop McGrath school.

Coun Alana Davies, the cabinet member for children, said that although the fire was very distressing and disruptive, everyone had shown tremendous co-operation and commitment in making the school safe and accessible once again.

She said: "We would like to thank staff, pupils and parents for their patience, as well as the emergency services for their swift response – and the many council officers who have worked tirelessly to get the school re-opened."

School governor Dennis Hooper said that the priority now was to bring the school community back together to deliver the highest standard of education.

He added: "The teaching staff, led by acting headteacher Rev. Dr Philip Manghan, will ensure that pupils return to their day to day routines with minimal disruption."

• *POLICE are investigating the cause of a suspicious fire, also in the early hours of last Wednesday, which took place at John Street, Nantyffyllon.*

The blaze broke out between midnight and 1am.

The investigation is still under way and a police spokesman said that anyone who saw anything suspicious at the time to contact Det Sgt John Richards at Bridgend CID on 01656-679518 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Plan to make area a mecca for cyclists

Garw Valley's vision of a brighter future

A bright new future as a top tourist area could await the Garw Valley – if the community council has its way.

The council, which has already brought in millions of pounds in grants to create Parc Calon Lan and other attractions, is now hard at work on an ambitious scheme to link up with the Afan Valley and attract some of the thousands of cyclists who visit the Afan.

The cycle tracks in the Afan Valley are now listed in the top 10 of such track complexes worldwide and thousands of people visit the valley each week to cycle the many miles of mountain track that exist.

There has been considerable spin-off for the valley, with a new Cyclists' Lodge recently opening at Dyffryn to provide accommodation as well as smaller guest houses.

Wyn Davies, who is clerk of the Garw Valley Community Council, said that there was scope to tap into this: "We want a share of this lucrative tourism market.

"There have been huge benefits to the Afan – there are now 11 guests houses in Glyncorrwg alone – a former pit village which never had any tourism.

"There are 130,000 visitors to the Afan Valley a year – and the vast majority are mountain bikers," said Mr Davies.

"We want to tap into that and it will be of mutual benefit because it will make the Afan more attractive if extra routes can be offered to give cyclists some variety."

Work has already been carried out in the Garw to create a circular trail for walkers and cyclists starting at Bryngarw House and coming up the valley to Blaengarw – running alongside the lakes and Parc Calon Lan.

The park and the trail have been created through a partnership of the community council and Cydcoed which is part of the Forestry Commission.

There are also miles of roads through the forests that cyclist already use.

"We have 105 miles of rights of way in the Garw from Betws to Blaengarw and you can ride bikes along them," he said. "We already get hundreds of people coming over from the Afan across the mountain.

"But our aim is to create a proper and permanent link link between Glyncorrwg, where there is a mountain bike centre, and Blaengarw."

The Community Council has met Neath Port Talbot Council and they are supporting the project.

The council has also commissioned a professional cyclist to look at the tracks and trails that already exist and come back with his recommendations.

"He was absolutely astounded at the potential in the valley," said Mr Davies. "He said it could be the number one site in Wales."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 9)

Tough task for Alana as she takes on Alun?

PORTHCAWL councillor Alana Davies has taken on the tough task of contesting one of Labour's more marginal seats. the Vale of Glamorgan, where she will be defending a majority of 1,808 against Tory opponent Alun Cairns. (SEE PAGE 4).

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Health and safety culture has stopped the horrors of the past

YOU will often read criticism in the papers of a 'health and safety' culture in this country.

Normally, of course, health and safety would be regarded as a good thing, ensuring children don't get hurt and people don't get injured in work.

Children's playgrounds are a good example of how things have changed. When I was little, there existed a ride in the playground called the Witch's Hat.

It was basically an upside down cone suspended from a central pole, much like the trap on the board game Mousetrap.

It swivelled, but also swung, which meant that it was fairly easy to trap your legs between the metal cone and the pole. It was considered so dangerous that it was removed, even in the carefree days of the 1970s.

Since then, we've seen the roundabouts go and the surfaces have changed from solid concrete to soft rubber.

I grew up with the old-style playgrounds and no doubt many will claim that they did us no harm, but there were far more injuries then than now, and there's no doubt that the playgrounds we have now are far safer than they were.

We can trace the history of health and safety in the workplace as well. In the 19th century, there wasn't any.

Miners worked underground with naked candles and children were employed in the mills at the carpet presses.

Their job was to scurry across carpets picking up fluff before the hydraulic press came down on them. If they didn't get out of the way they were crushed.

In mining, the cloth cap has gone, replaced by the helmet (although some of the old miners used to sneak the caps back on years ago).

If you go underground now you get ear protectors, a battery lamp and a self-rescuer, which allows you to breathe safely if there are poisonous gases in the mine.

At the face, water is used to suppress the dust and the workers there wear face masks and goggles.

There are many of us in south Wales who have seen the effect of coal dust on the lungs of men, particularly in the anthracite district of the western coalfield.

I saw plenty of old miners who fought for their breath and were housebound at a young age, dependent on a nebuliser to give them oxygen.

Many of us will know of those who worked with machinery without ear protection, making them almost deaf at a young age.

Many of us will also remember men dying in their early 60s and people thinking that they had had 'a good innings' because so many died young after working for years in the mining conditions of the past.

Let's not forget that it was also common to see accidents underground that claimed the lives of 10 or more miners until the late 1960s.

Too much health and safety? I don't think so.

Assembly Notes

by ***CARWYN JONES***
AM for Bridgend Counsel General and Leader of the House.

One more 'hoop' for allotment gates proposal

I write regarding your first article in Porthcawl Town Council News (page 6, September 17) concerning gates at Newton Allotments, in which you have stated that "the council agreed to the request".

What was agreed by council was that the clerk would contact the Charity Commission to make enquiries as to whether it would be feasible to erect gates, as requested by the Newton Allotment Society.

I know that there was not a GEM reporter at the town council meeting that evening, so I am at a loss as to how you are getting your information.

Coun Norah Clarke
Porthcawl

GEM NOTE:

It is not always possible for a reporter to attend all council meetings. In that case, it is common practice for a reporter to telephone the town clerk or council leader to enquire if routine agenda items were passed.

This was true when Coun Gerald Davies was the Lib-Dem leader of the council, and it is true now that Coun David Deere (Conservative) holds that role.

The council did agree to the request, but The GEM is happy to acknowledge that the application does have one more 'hoop to jump through'.

THE COLUMN YOU WRITE

Readers' Letters

We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. Letters and emails MUST include full address and a contact telephone number. An email address alone is not sufficient. We will (*in certain circumstances*), protect a writer's identity, if requested. Please keep your letters brief and address them to: The Editor, Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL.

WYN'S POEM OF PRAISE TO THE LANCASTER BOMBER

YOU may be interested in the following poem my cousin Wyn Williams, from Caernarfon, North Wales, wrote after the war about the Lancaster Bomber.

Wyn was a navigator on a Lancaster Bomber operating out of a Suffolk airfield.

I found it very poignant. He died a few years ago and his sister gave me the poem. I think it is worthy of sharing because it shows how attached the airman became to his aeroplane.

I understand that Wyn was inspired to write the poem after visiting an airshow after the war.

The Lanc

I dream now of another time
Of soaring wings and slipstream whine
Of airscrew arcs and engine drone
And cloudy canyons I have known.
When towering columns split the night
With brilliant beams of searching light,
There in just moments we became
Small insects round a naked flame.
Time after time we saw the cost
To all who fought so well, yet lost.
For them a fiery plunge through space,
In another time, another place.
Time has not marred my grim old frame,
To your fading eyes
I'm still the same.
Look well, all strangers standing there,
For I am the mighty Lancaster!

Wyn Williams

Over 4,000 Lancaster Bombers were built in Cheshire. Wyn's was Lancaster LM577-HA-Q for Queenie, 218 (Gold Coast) Squadron, Chedburgh.

Ray Pritchard, Brynsadler

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL OCTOBER 1)

The high tides listed in The GEM are those in Barry. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Porthcawl, the high point will be 15– 20 minutes earlier.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
24 Thur	11.05	13.6	23.12	13.2
25 Fri	11.29	12.6	23.51	12.3
26 Sat			12.05	11.8
27 Sun	00.34	11.5	13.04	11.1
28 Mon	01.49	11.0	14.59	11.2
29 Tues	03.29	11.2	16.24	11.4
30 Wed	04.57	11.9	17.21	12.6
01 Thur	05.47	13.0	18.06	13.4

Praise for school

I WOULD like to congratulate St John's School, Porthcawl on the opening of their new pre-prep building, and also on their largest intake for many years.

I would totally agree that they have not only a high quality of teaching, but also great pastoral care.

When my daughter was struggling at comprehensive school and no-one bothered because she wasn't one of the high flyers, we took her out of the school and enrolled her into St John's for year 10 and 11.

She was given a new confidence at the school and an attitude that she could do it.

She has just started a three-year BA degree at the University of Gloucestershire.

The school saved my daughter and I congratulate them on their well-deserved success.

Mrs Karen Jones, Cowbridge

Young movie-maker's success

DANIELLE MANSELL (17), a student at Bridgend College, will see her film *Dypraxia – It Doesn't Control Me I Control It* screened at The Co-operative Young Film-Makers Festival at Bradford's National Media Museum on October 8-9.

It was one of only 111 chosen from 320 productions entered by young film-makers, schools, youth groups, arts groups, colleges and video workshops from across the UK and beyond.

The selected films, all under six minutes long, will be shown over nine screenings throughout the two-day event and include drama, documentary, animation and comedy films, along with music videos.

Harry Potter star Matthew Lewis, who plays the comical character Neville Longbottom, will open this year's festival and take part in a questions and answers session for festival-goers.

LOCAL INFORMATION

MADELEINE MOON MP for Bridgend
Westminster office - 02072194417
Constituency office - 47, Nolton Street, Bridgend. Open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 10am - 12pm. Telephone 01656 750002
HUW IRRANCA-DAVIES MP for Ogmore
Constituency Office 01656 737777
JANICE GREGORY AM for Ogmore
Constituency Office 01656 860034
CARWYN JONES AM for Bridgend
Constituency office 01656 664320
Bethan Jenkins AM for South West Wales
Telephone 01639 643549
BRIDGEND CAB Citizens' Advice Bureau, Ground Floor, 26 Dunraven Place, Bridgend CF31 1JD 01656 654951 – Open to personal callers: Tuesday-Friday 10am-12.30pm or telephone service: Monday-Friday 10am-12.30pm.
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SSAFA – Forces Help for serving and ex-service men, women and families in need **01656 785435**
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(Mental Health Matters) **01656 767045**
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WOMEN'S AID 01656 766139
Bridgend Carers' Centre 01656 658479
Alzheimer's Society (Bridgend) 01656 651490
BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL (selected numbers)
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(emergencies out of hours) **01656 663247;**
(homelessness) **01656 643542.**
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SOCIAL SERVICE EMERGENCIES
(outside normal working hours) **01443 204010**
HOSPITALS Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend **01656 752752**
Bridgend and District NHS Trust **01656 752752**
VOLUNTARY WORK Bridgend Association of Voluntary Organisations (BAVO) **01656 810400**
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PORTHCAWL TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD NEWS

Members made their own entertainment

AFTER our summer break, members were all looking forward to the September meeting.

There was no speaker at the September meeting, so after the business meeting was over, they were entertained by a few members, with singing, readings, and poetry, all with a harvest theme.

They also had a raffle, harvest table and craft table which raises funds for the Guild, then afternoon tea – and what a spread! There are some very good cooks among the members.

The walk and talk group went to Ogmore this month, and Bryngarw House next month for the last walk of the year, finishing with lunch.

The lunch club met at Beale's fish and chip restaurant, and the literature group meet every month.

The next meeting of the guild is on October 14.

The speaker is Mrs Tina Gutteridge, a local florist, who will be talking on – flowers!

All are welcome at All Saints Church Hall, Victoria Avenue at 2pm.

Looking back on life before the sewers...

MYNYDD CYNFFIG WI

AT the meeting on September 8, president, Mrs Enid Rymer welcomed members back after the August break and introduced the speaker, Mr Bruce Hawkins, who gave a talk entitled 'The Great Stink of 1858'.

He illustrated his talk with slides and described the dreadful conditions that people lived in at that time in London.

The Thames was then an open sewer, and all human waste, along with dead bodies and rubbish, was thrown into it.

Drinking water came from the river and caused the outbreak of cholera that was killing around 1,000 people a day.

A doctor named Sir John Snow identified the drinking water as the source of the disease.

The direct result was the building of the 450 miles of London's sewers by the engineer, Sir John Bazalgette, that are still in use today.

On August 11, the summer outing to Abergavenny and the Breconshire canal took place where members enjoyed a cream tea on board one of the canal barges.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 13 at 2.30pm in the vestry of Pisgah Chapel, Kenfig HIll.

New members are always welcome; please contact Mrs Maureen Crew on 01656 749070.

BANK OFFERS HELP

THE Nottage Primary School in Porthcawl was very successful in raising more than £500 from its recent raffle.

Barclays Bank in Porthcawl will match the amount raised, which means that all children in school will benefit from additional money, a school spokeswoman said.

"We are currently in negotiations with play structure companies to build a fantastic new structure for the infant playground," the spokeswoman added.

Flower arranging

PENCOED Flower Arranging Society meets at Pencoed College (usually twice monthly) on Mondays at 7pm.

New members and visitors are welcome, and membership is open to anyone interested in flowers at whatever level of competency (tuition given).

On October 5, there is a practice evening entitled 'All is safely gathered in'.

On October 19, a demonstration by Sharon Dower of Swansea is entitled 'Fruits of the Florist'.

Contact 01656 657766 for information.

Is surplus school set to become a community centre?

A VALLEY infants school, which is due to close within weeks, is set to have a new lease of life as a community centre.

Blaenllynfi Infants School in Caerau is being vacated shortly when pupils transfer to the new Caerau Primary School, which is being built at the moment.

They will join pupils from Caerau Nursery and Blaencaerau Junior School in this purpose-built school. The transfer will leave Bridgend County Borough Council with the problem of what to do with the vacated school buildings.

A report to the cabinet said that it had originally been planned to sell the three school sites, retaining part of Blaenllynfi Infants, which is used by the Flying Start team. Any money raised would have been reinvested in the school modernisation programme.

However, there is currently little interest in these sites from prospective purchasers. Private developers have been approached but all have said that Caerau is not an area where they require sites.

Housing Associations have also stated they have no requirements in Caerau.

The report, from Gareth Moss, corporate director of resources, said that a combination of Caerau's location as the most northerly part of the borough , the fact that it is one of the areas of greatest social and economic deprivation in Wales, and the recession made these sites very difficult to market for commercial, residential or retail development.

Local members have been consulted and it was agreed that leaving the buildings unoccupied for any length of time would be detrimental to the area.

It has decided to demolish Blaencaerau Junior School as soon as possible after it is vacated to minimise health and safety issues, and the negative social impact of the empty buildings.

Caerau Nursery has already been demolished as the children have been transferred temporarily to Blaenllynfi until the new school is ready.

There has been interest in Blaenllynfi Infants from the Caerau Development Trust which wants to use the building for the community.

The trust has said it wishes to buy the site at market value based on a district valuer's valuation. But members need six months to secure the capital funding.

At the moment, a new business plan is being produced to assess the viability of the scheme.

Mr Moss said that in order to reduce potential vandalism and also reduce the cost to the council of making the building secure, it was proposed that the trust be granted a six-month licence to occupy the empty buildings as soon as the children move out.

The trust would be able to pilot some of their proposals and secure funding.

At the end of the period, the buildings would either revert back to the council or be bought by the trust. Flying Start will continue to occupy their part of the site, and ownership of that building will remain with the council.

A further report will be made to cabinet at the end of the six-month period.

GROWING PROBLEM OF ADULT SOCIAL CARE

SOME interesting facts about the population of Bridgend county borough have recently emerged.

In 2007, the population of the borough stood at 133,917, compared to 128,645 in 2001.

The ethnic origins of the population are said to be 98.63 per cent white; 0.48 per cent, Chinese; 0.42 per cent Asian; 0.08 per cent black and 0.38 per cent are of mixed race.

Bridgend has an age profile similar to Wales as a whole – 60 per cent are of working age and 20 per cent are of retirement age.

The borough has an over-65 population of over 17 per cent of the total with a high concentration of people in that age group living in Porthcawl. The Welsh average is 16 per cent.

The figures were produced in a report by Bridgend County Borough Council on providing adult social care in the future.

The population of Bridgend is expected to increase by six per cent (8000 people) across all age groups by 2015, rising by a further 13,000 by 2030.

The number of people aged 65 and over by 2015 will have increased by 22 per cent or 5000 people and that trend will continue.

And the number of people aged 75 and over will have increased by 17 per cent by 2015. The over 85's will increase by 23 per cent over the same period.

A model of social care has been drawn up to reflect the changing demography of the area.

Changes are needed in adult social care because the present system is unsustainable in the face of these demographic changes and ongoing financial pressures.

The plan is still at draft stage and will now go out for consultation before being adopted.

Porthcawl Male Choir to sing at Llandaff Cathedral

ABOVE: Porthcawl Male Choir get set to perform at another big charity concert.

PORTHCAWL Male Choir is to sing at what promises to be a gala concert at Llandaff Cathedral, with the proceeds raised going to support the work of the cardiac charity, SADS UK, in Wales.

Porthcawl's choir and the City of Newport Choir are performing with guest soprano soloist Angharad Morgan, and accompanist Jane Samuel, on October 3.

In the UK, it is estimated that 3,500 apparently fit and healthy people die suddenly and unexpectedly under the age of 65 years old – some children and teenagers.

A spokesperson said: "These people have no previously documented heart disease; however, cardiac conditions can have a hereditary (genetic) origin.

"The Institute of Medical Genetics at the University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff serves families in Wales.

"SADS UK is helping to fund the genetic service and enable it to carry out its important work in evaluating families who may need treatment for cardiac conditions."

Dignitaries attending include the Deputy Mayor of the City of Newport, Mrs Val Delahaye and her consort, and Wayne David MP.

Anyone who would like tickets to the concert on October 3 at 7pm should contact Ray Street, Porthcawl Male Choir, telephone 01656 771214.

Police appeal after collision

A WOMAN driver was said this week to be in a stable condition in hospital after a collision on the southbound carriageway of the A4232 Ely Link Road, Cardiff near to junction 33 of the M4, on September 14.

A black Ford Focus car was in collision with an articulated goods vehicle parked in a layby at t9.30am.

Anyone who witnessed the collision should contact the Eastern Roads Policing Office at Cardiff on 02920 222111, or their local police station.

"The 66-year-old female driver of the Ford Focus is in a stable condition at the University Hospital, Heath, Cardiff," a spokesman said.

College students collect personnel certificates

Left to right: Lecturer Lisa Curtis, CPP students, lecturer Carolyn Hayward and Mark Jones, principal.

STAFF and students from the Certificate in Personnel Practice (CPP) course at Bridgend College gathered to celebrate the achievement of 29 students who passed their course this year.

The presentation evening included a buffet and an opportunity to network. Elaine Lawson from the local CIPD branch, Mark Jones, principal, John Morgan, head of school for business and It, and the course tutor Lisa Curtis were among staff celebrating with the students.

The principal gave a short address and presented their certificates.

Porthcawl councillor is chosen to fight Vale Commons seat

by PHILIP IRWIN

A Labour councillor from Porthcawl, Alana Davies, has been "overwhelmingly" selected as Labour's prospective parliamentary candidate in the Vale of Glamorgan.

In a statement, the Vale of Glamorgan Labour Party said: "Alana Davies is a long-serving and experienced member of the Labour Party and is currently the cabinet member for Children and Young People in neighbouring Bridgend County Borough Council.

"She is a former senior lecturer in further education and currently an associate lecturer with the Open University."

The statement said that she was "overwhelmingly" selected at a members' meeting in Barry over the weekend.

Alana Davies said: "I am delighted and privileged to have been selected to represent Labour in the next election. I have received so much support from local members, and I know we have a winning team.

"I have pledged to work closely with our AM and our councillors in order to represent the interests of all residents of the Vale, and I will work alongside John Smith MP in the run-up to the next election."

Jane Hutt AM for the Vale, said: "I am delighted that Alana Davies has been chosen to represent the Vale in the forthcoming general election. As a well-respected figure in local government and education, she is the ideal choice to serve this constituency in Westminster, following in John Smith's footsteps"

Retiring Labour MP John Smith said: "I congratulate Alana Davies on her selection. Alana will make a great Vale MP; she is a dynamic campaigner who will work tirelessly for the people of the Vale.

"She got involved in politics to fight for the rights of workers and our hardworking families.

"She is also a strong supporter of the £12 billion Defence Technical College at St Athan and I look forward to working closely with her to ensure that local people get the lion's share of the benefits of this record investment, which Labour won for the Vale."

Alana Davies.

It means that she will be crossing swords once again with Alun Cairns, her Conservative opponent for the seat. He is the regional AM for South Wales West, which includes Porthcawl, and the pair have clashed on more than a few issues.

Mr Cairns said: "Mrs Davies and I have debated on many occasions. Sometimes we agree and sometimes we disagree.

"I always respect the argument she presents but I believe that the country and the Vale need a change of government and a new direction."

So the two main contenders know each other well. In fact, on this reporter's mobile phone, Alana Davies and Alun Cairns lie cosily side by side – alphabetically speaking, of course!

Charity 'dolls and miniatures' show

WE are holding the Mid Glamorgan Dolls House and Miniaturists Group annual show on Saturday, October 10 at Cowbridge Town Hall.

This year, we are donating the proceeds of the show to The Noah's Ark Appeal (Children's hospital for Wales).

The show runs from 10.30am-5pm and there will be an excellent display of dolls houses and miniatures, also sales tables, refreshments and raffle. Admission is £1 for adults and 50p for children over five.

We have about 45 members (mostly pensioners) who work hard throughout the year in order to put on a worthwhile show and raise money for our nominated charity. The quality of the work on display is superb.

Everybody is welcome to attend.

Robin Tyler
(Show secretary)

Who wants to build what and where in the borough?

Food Programme Delivery – **Somerfield Stores, Tremains Road, Bridgend** – five fascia signs and two directional signs.
Carrine Williams – **Fairwood House, Rhyd Lane, Penyfai** – remove deadwood branches and remedial work.
Mr N Moody – **Bridgend & District Model Eng Society, Fountain Road, Aberkenfig, Bridgend** – provide accommodation for building of model railway layouts and associated activities – steel containers.
Miss C Davies – **land north of 1 and 2 Penybryn Cottages, Bryngarn Road, Pencoed** – gateway to the field, raising of the land and building for stables.
Mr and Mrs R Bedesha – **Longacre, Court Colman, Penyfai** – down-sizing and completion of partially constructed replacement dwelling and retain two-storey extension.
Mrs S Barnett – **Tusker View, Cefn Cross, Cefn Cribbwr, Bridgend** – replacement/new wall to front and side of property to vehicular impact to property.
Mr K Hughes – **35-37 Oxford Street, Pontycymmer** – change of use of ground floor from A1 to A1/A2 and first floor from C3 to A2.
Mr C Williams – **227 Oxford Street, Pontycymmer** – garage with storage area and garden on roof.
Mr R Tanner – **45 Wyndham Crescent, Bridgend** – two-storey extension to side and rear.
Mr D MacKenzie – **40 Tremains Court, Brackla, Bridgend** – erection of log cabin.
Mr Ingram – **30 Newcastle Hill, Bridgend** – door and window change to front elevation (Article 4 direction).
Ms C Smith – **15 Ffordd yr Afon, Llangewydd Court, Bridgend** – two-storey extension and internal alterations.
Mr R Addis – **2 Sandfields Road, Aberkenfig, Bridgend** – dormer to side elevation.
Creation Developments Ltd – **land adjacent Ogmore Vale Primary School, Aber Road, Ogmore Vale** – new Ogmore childcare centre.
Mr D Rhodes – **5 Railway Terrace, Blaengarw, Bridgend** – proposed single storey kitchen extension.
Mr A Keeble – **6 Railway Terrace, Blaengarw, Bridgend** – proposed single storey kitchen extension.
Mr J Bryant – **Dan yr Awel, Heol Las, Coity** – replace tiles with slate and form pitched roof to flat roof and demolish garage and build new with stable and tack room.
Mr A Watkins, **land adjacent to 1 Wern Fawr Road, Pencoed** – fell one tree.
Mr A Penny, **land adjacent o 103B Mill View, Maesteg** – construction of a four-bedroom detached dwelling.
Mrs J Cox, **Bellisima, 50 John Street, Porthcawl** – change of use of retail clothes/gift shop to a gift/coffee shop.
Mr John Baker, **67 Llys Pentre, Broadlands** – studio/DIY shed/potting shed to rear.
Mrs P Maurice, **12 Hillside Terrace, Pantyrawel** – install external wheelchair platform lift and small ramp to side entrance door.
Tesco Store, **Castle Street, Maesteg** – new automatic (fully glazed) doors to lobby openings and main store entrance.
Boots The Chemist, **8 Caroline Street, Bridgend** – two additional external air conditioning condenser units.
Cenim Limited, **northern hanger, former Stormy Down Aerodrome, Stormy Down** – vary condition 1 to permit retention of low carbon substitute test plant until 2034.
Mr SR Laidlaw, **30 Grove Road, Bridgend** – demolish existing garage and erect larger garage/workshop.
Mr and Mrs Mackie, **Maes Y Gwaelod, Pencoed** – extension and alterations to house, incorporating attached buildings, new pitched roof to garages.
Peter Alan Estate Agency, **58 John Street, Porthcawl** – change of use from vacant A1 retail unit to Class A2 (financial and professional services).
Mr E Averill, **New bungalow, Cae Helyg Farm Pant, Hirwaun Road, Bryncethin** – raising of ground levels with inert material.

Macmillan benefit

THE Sarn and Bryncethin Community Association is helping to promote a coffee morning at Sarn Learning Centre, in support of the Macmillan cancer care charity, on Saturday, September 26 between 10.30am-12noon.

The management committee has thanked Janice Gregory AM for the autographed bottle of Welsh whisky, which she donated for a raffle prize at the recent concert held at the centre in aid of the First Responders.

Unfortunately, Ms Gregory was unable to be present, but has promised to attend the next concert, which will be performed by Ogmore Valley ladies choir and society on November 21, in aid of the same charity.

I have seen Ms Gregory at concerts in aid of various charities throughout her constituency. In fact, at one in Bridgend in aid of Velindre cancer care it was a wonder anyone supported the concert...

The weather was atrocious, but she and Huw Irranca-Davies, the MP for Ogmore, were both present.

Over the past weeks, I have come across old pianos which, through lack of use, have become unplayable. If anyone would like to try and renovate these old instruments, please contact me.

Concert for Bradley

A charity concert is being held at Canolfan Bethlehem Centre at 7pm on September 26, in Commercial Street, Ogmore Vale.

All proceeds are to help provide assistance to Bradley McKenzie, the three-year-old boy who caught a viral infection as a baby, since when he has been unable to sit up or stand.

This young lad requires specialist physiotherapy which is expensive and, unfortunately, is an ongoing situation.

The concert is being staged by Ogmore Valley male voice choir, with supporting young soloists from the area. Tickets £4, can be obtained from any choir member, or from John on 01656 841429.

The choir practises every Thursday evening at 7pm at Canolfan Bethlehem and welcomes new recruits.

Club AGM

THE Aberkenfig Boys and Girls Club is holding its annual general meeting at Tondu Cricket Club on September 29 at 7pm; everyone is welcome and the club deserves full support.

It caters for those aged between six and 25. The club meets at Ynysawdre comprehensive school most nights of the week, and among its many achievements organises football teams for most age groups.

It would welcome volunteers to help assist with activities.
Volunteers are required to be CRB checked, but the club helps everyone with this requirement.

For further information, contact Mr G. Pope on 07764,499147, or Mrs G Williams on 07877 849584.

Stepping down

MR Ivor Barnett, the musical director, has resigned through personal circumstances from the Ogmore Valley Silver Band.

It is with regret that the committee and band members have heard this news, and thank him for his commitment to the band for the last 10 years, and wish him every success in the future.

During this time, Ivor had led the band into two National finals; unfortunately, they did not win but to reach the finals is no mean feat.

The band is looking for a new musical director.

It welcomes prospective musicians of all ages to attend rehearsals in the band room, Bethania Row, Ogmore Vale at 6pm on Sundays and 7pm on Wednesdays.

Joint effort

I RECENTLY attended the 20th anniversary concert given by Llynfi Valley ladies choir (Côr Merched Cwm Llynfi) at Maesteg town hall, and it was the first time I had heard them in performance.

They must be congratulated for the variety and gusto they put into singing.

They had two female soloists in Margaret Griffiths and Lindy Sawtell, who even though they were nervous, put every effort into their performance.

There were three guest male artists, one of whom was Aled Williams, a 16-year-old pupil at Ysgol Gyfun Llanhari, winner of the Bridgend young singer of the year, senior section contest for 2009.

The other two male vocalists were the Fratello brothers – Wynne and Mark Evans from Carmarthen – who gave a polished performance with a great deal of comedy in their act.

WIs combine

ON September 14, Cefn Cribw, Aberkenfig and District, Laleston and Mynydd Cynfig Women's Institutes, collectively called CALM, presented a social evening with the theme 'Ascot Hats'.

The ladies of all four Women's Institutes should be proud of themselves.

Unlike Ascot, there was no alcohol on offer, just a very nice fruit punch, accompanied by nibbles and fancy cakes.

The hall was decorated with balloons and there was a raffle with a large number of prizes.

The horses, the humorous commentary and all other equipment were supplied by Keith Evans, ably assisted by his wife Gaynor, who took the bets, handed out the winnings and generally encouraged the ladies to take an active part.

Head's thanks

MARTIN GRIFFITHS, the headteacher of Tynyrheol Primary School, thanks PTFA members who raised cash for 12 flat screen computer monitors.

Concert

THERE will be a musical evening at St Bride's Church, Llansantffraid on Friday, October 2 at 7pm, with the Ogmore Valley male voice choir.

Tickets £5, can be obtained from Kay on 01656 767135 or at the door.

NORTH BRIDGEND NEWS

A message for all readers in the north of Bridgend who would like to have items included in the community news columns of The GEM:
If you wish to submit reports on any social activity in this region, please contact me.
I am very approachable and will endeavour to include every newsworthy subject.

Contact details: CLIVE MITCHELL
1 Tyn-Y-Coed Close, Sarn, Bridgend CF32 9NQ
TEL: 01656 725399
email: tynycoed1@yahoo.co.uk

ABOVE: The winning exhibit of class 6 at the recent Glamorgan Federation Women's Institute show held at North Cornelly Community Centre. Titled 'My Family', it was a sampler linked to the family of Marian Edwards which took 18 months to complete.

Marian Edwards with the class 6 award winning sampler and class 20 second-placed watercolour of the coast.

Tell us your local news!

● *WE welcome your news, views and sports items. Please email them to the Editorial Department at:* ***ggem@internet-today.co.uk***

Round the Bay swim part of lifeguard club's 50th anniversary celebrations

PORTHCAWL Lifeguard Club is 50 years old this year, and last weekend the juniors and nippers enjoyed a weekend of activities to mark the date.

The young members camped out at the club's Rhych Point base, and enjoyed raft building and a number of beach games - as well as spending a few hours on a thorough beach clean of Sandy Bay.

However,the centrepiece of the weekend was the annual 'Round the Bay' swim, which offered competitors the chance of tackling the 'long course' or a shorter version.

The swimmers sprinted into the water at 9.30am, and the long course took them across to the breakwater and back. Porthcawl RNLI crew were stationed out at sea, together with club lifeguards.

The club captain, Stephanie Davenport, thanked Porthcawl and District Tourist Association for sponsoring the trophies, and this year the association presented a new one - the David 'Viking' Thomas Shield - in remembrance of one of the club's founder members and lifelong suuporters.

Dai Viking was club president when he passed away a few months ago. The new trophy will go to the first home in the short course swim, and this year it went to a Penybont club member, young Ashley Lewis who, not surprisingly, also took the junior section.

He received the shield from Anne Griffiths of the tourist association. His father, Tony, was first home in the masters category in the short course.

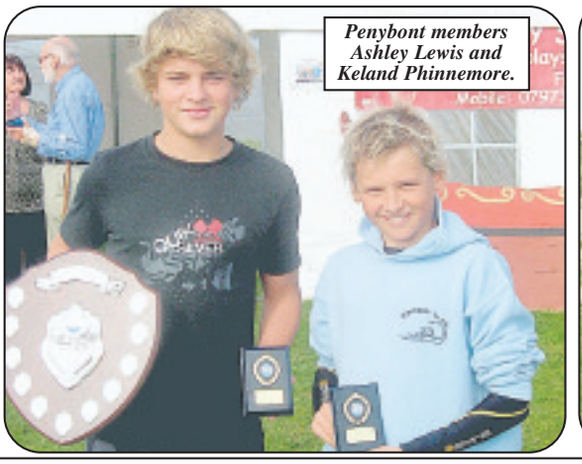
Also in the short course, there were first place finishes for Rhys Brothers (senior male) and Mary Jayne Glanville (senior female).

However, the main prize of the day, the long course winner of the Porthcawl Lifeguard Shield, went to Richie Watkins, who also took the male senior category.First in the long course male masters section was Dave Murray, while there was a 'dead heat' in the female masters between Kate Panicola and Mandy Clarke.

Finally, another Penybont club member, Keland Phinnemore, was first home in the long course junior section

ABOVE: Masters of the long course were Dave Murray, Kate Panicola and Mandy Clarke.

Anne Griffiths presented Ashley Lewis with the David 'Viking' Thomas Shield.



Penybont members Ashley Lewis and Keland Phinnemore.

Tony Lewis was first in the masters short course.

Richie Watkins was the overall winner.

Police appeal for information

RIGHT: Jurijs Petrovs.

POLICE in Bridgend are seeking information on the whereabouts of Jurijs Petrovs (21) who lives in the Brackla area and has failed to answer police bail.

A Latvian, he is 5ft 8ins tall, of slim build, with short cropped brown hair and blue eyes.

Contact the Intelligence Cell at Bridgend police station on 01656 655555 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

PENCOED UNDER-9s TAKE DOUBLE HEADER

PENCOED under-9s fixture against Mumbles was cancelled, so they were delighted to accept an invitation to Beddau to play the hosts and visiting team Ystrad Rhondda.

Game 1 – First up was Beddau, who came out strong, sending their bigger boys on crash balls down the middle, only to be tackled and driven back by Owain Johns and Sam Costelow.

Mikey Bosley and Rhys Spurgeon capitalised on the breakdowns by regaining possession to let flyer Tyron Harding and tenacious Jonathon Carr run in for two quick tries.

Pencoed's forwards continued to drive the hosts back at every ruck and maul, turning over almost all breakdowns. Rhys Spurgeon ripped and rolled out of one such maul and ran the length of his half to score the third.

Jon Carr exploited the blind side and made a sniping run for his second, Strong running and support play from Mikey Bosley saw him bursting through tackles for two tries, and terrific jinking runs from Sam Costelow added three more .

Special mention goes to new member Kyle Chamberlain, who put in impressive debut performance, rounding off with a try of his own and being named man-of-the-match.

Final score: Beddau 0 Pencoed 10

Game 2 – The second match saw Ystrad Rhondda try to take on the Bridgend youngsters up front and, for a time, the game was held at stalemate.

Great work by Ben Humphries and Jack Rowlands inspired the team to up their game, and they did with debutant Dewi Ward passing out to Tyron Harding for the first score.

Ystrad were committed in defence and against the run of play broke away and went in at the corner. From the resulting kick off they turned over possession and ran in their second.

For a moment, Pencoed were on the back foot and only desperate defence from Owain Johns, Sam Costelow and Mikey Bosley kept out Ystrad. Just before half-time, Tyron Harding made same space and ran in a try from his own half to level the scores.

As this team has in previous games, they found another gear and began dominating the contact area and pulling Ystrad all over the park. Ben Jones set up a great off-load to Mikey Bosley to run in Pencoed's third.

Sam Costelow finished off a training ground move from the restart and a crowd-pleasing display of handling through almost all the team saw Sam Costelow break down the wing from his own half, only to be caught two yards from the line. Mikey Bosley, following in support, picked up out of the tackle to go over for his second and Pencoed's fifth.

Final score Pencoed 5 Ystrad Rhondda 2

Team: Sam Costelow, Mikey Bosley, Rhys Spurgeon, Ben Humphries, Dewi Ward, Jack Rowlands, Kyle Chamberlain, Owain Johns, Jonathan Carr, Tyron Harding, Ben Jones.

MB

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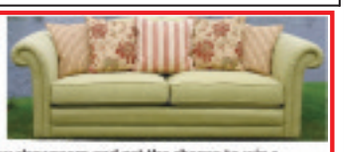

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Official launch for Porthcawl lifeboat

ABOVE: The team that make up Porthcawl RNLI, pictured in front of Rose of the Shires.

AS was featured in last week's GEM, the official naming of Porthcawl RNLI's new lifeboat, Rose of the Shires, took place with great ceremony and was blessed with great weather,

Here are some more photographs of the day.

PHOTOGRAPHS by KEITH E MORGAN.

ABOVE: Helmsman Aileen Jones led a reading of the 'Lifeboat Prayer'.

ABOVE: Ian Hunter presents two maps of Northamptonshire, ancient and modern, to Porthcawl RNLI. They were received by president Peter Scott (left), John Abraham and Philip Missen.

ABOVE: Mrs Kim Matchem officially hands over the new lifeboat to George Rawlinson of the RNLI.

ABOVE: Porthcawl Fire Station Officer Dave King and Mrs King, with Mrs Kate Thomas, Lord Lieutenant of Mid Glamorgan.

ABOVE: Porthcawl crewman Paul Eastman and family.

Pencoed under-12s return to form at Tondu

PENCOED under-12s bounced back from last week's defeat at Rhiwbina to record a convincing 45-7 win over Tondu at the weekend.

Despite conceding a glut of penalties, and receiving the first yellow card of the season, the Pencoed forwards at last put in a solid performance and dominated the game, giving the Pencoed backline an endless supply of ball.

Rhodri Lewis opened the scoring for Pencoed, while Lewis Butler continued to impress in midfield with another four tries to add to his tally, taking him to 11 in three games!

Cian Griffiths and Rhys Butler crossed for the other Pencoed tries, with Connor Goldsworthy and Luke Bevan hitting five conversions between them.

Tondu, to be fair, put in a brave performance, considering they only had a bare 15 players and deservedly grabbed an interception try to get some points on the board. Chris Carr and Morgan Burgess deservedly shared the man of the match award for their impressive work rate throughout the game.

Pencoed squad: Callum Baker, Dylan Barrett, Luke Bevan, Morgan Burgess, Lewis Butler, Rhys Butler, Chris Carr, Joe Daniel, Connor Goldsworthy, Cian Griffiths, Leon James, Owen Lake, Rhodri Lewis, Aaron Leyshon, Morgan Llewellyn, Tyler Maidment, Tomos Morgan, Kieran Parrish, Jack Pope, James Thomas and Dan Watkins.

SB

TOWN'S 'DR FINLAY' CONNECTION

ABOVE: Mr Neil Treharne with the historic document.

A REMARKABLE document that links Cowbridge with the creator of *Dr Finlay's Casebook* has been presented to a Welsh heritage museum.

The Cowbridge connection revolves around the Hinde family. The late Dr Graham Hinde was for 30 years the head of radiology at Llandough Hospital, specialising in the serious lung disorders that were the legacy of the mining industry in Wales.

It is likely that Dr Hinde was drawn to that area of medical practice because his father was Dr W Cathcarte Hinde, a GP in the valley community of Tynewydd.

When he took up his duties, around the turn of the century, it was a small village. However, as the mining industry grew, so did his practice and workload. He tended to his many patients by travelling in a pony and trap and, as the practice grew, he took on trainee doctors.

One of these was AJ Cronin, who went on to write *The Citadel*, which was set in the Rhondda, and also *Dr Finlay's Casebook.*

The document in question was given to Dr W Cathcarte Hinde in 1907 by the people of Tynewydd, on the occasion of his wedding. It was a beautifully illustrated and inscribed tribute to a much-loved GP.

His son, Dr Graham Hinde, served as a ship's doctor in the Royal Navy in World War Two, mainly on escort ships guarding convoys that were heading for the northern ports of Russia.

After the war, he specialised in radiology, and came to live in Cowbridge when he took up his post in Llandough. He is survived by his daughter Jane, who lives in America.

The document has been looked after by Mr Neil Treharne of Cowbridge, but he has now decided that it should be in a suitable museum, and chose the Rhondda Heritage Museum.

Mr Treharne was for many years a friend and mentor to the Hinde family. For three decades, he ran a dry cleaning business in Cowbridge.

After his recent visit to the Rhondda Heritage Museum, Mr Treharne said: "I am delighted to deliver this important relic of south Wales history into the safe keeping of the museum, in tribute to the dedicated care of two generations of the Hinde family who did so much for the health and welfare of people from the Rhondda and south Wales.

"They were caring people of significant talent."

Handel's Oratorio

THE Tabernacl Music Society is performing *'Messiah'* on Sunday, Oct 4 at 7.30pm in Tabernacl Chapel, Derwen Road, Bridgend.

Tickets £8, schoolchildren £4, available from 01656 654899.

Date for diary: December 13, Christmas charity concert with carols and a performance of 'A Christmas Cantata' by Geoffrey Bush - in aid of Alzheimer's.

Harvest tea for charity

THERE is a charity harvest tea at All Saints Church, Porthcawl on September 25 at 3pm with sandwiches, pie and cream and a cup of tea – for £3.50.

A sausage and mash lunch is at the Hi Tide on November 7 at 12.30pm (£6).

All profits go to Cancer Research UK, to fund research and training in the fight against cancer.

Couple who share love of Welsh ponies see a dream come true

A YOUNG Pontyclun couple, who share a mutual love of Welsh mountain ponies, have seen their dreams come true.

Bethan Hooper and Rhydian Donati took the top prize at the Vale Show with their pony *Calon Lan*.

The couple have been together since February 2008, after meeting at a pub in the town.

Rhydian and Bethan both have a passion for Welsh Mountain ponies and Rhydian had shown ponies for Dr Wynne Davies, of the famous Ceulan Stud in Miskin. Bethan owned two ponies herself but had achieved little success at showing them.

The couple paid a visit to the stud, which is near their home, and in April received a phone call to say that a new foal had been born there.

The palamino colt was the son of the famous *Ceulan Cariad* and Rhydian decided to buy him when he was just one day old.

The couple chose the name *Ceulan Calon Lan* and proudly took him home last August.

Bethan, aged 19, lives with her parents Ann and Ian Hooper at Milwas House in Groesfaen. She is a student at Pencoed College on an equine studies course.

Rhydian, aged 30, is an electrician and also lives with his parents.

The couple have shown Calon Lan over the past year. He was named supreme champion at the Glamorgan Foal and Young Stock Show: "I was used to losing so having a winner was a huge shock," said Bethan.

"*Calon Lan* took two more Section A championships and I could not believe that my luck had changed so dramatically. I went from being last to beating everything!"

Calon Lan took a second at the Royal Welsh and then won four shows on the trot including Bridgend and Gower Agricultural shows.

At Llandeilo, they took the Reserve Section A championship, but the icing on the cake was the Vale Show where he was not only Young Stock Champion but also beat all the adult horses by taking the Section A championship as well.

The couple also received a Welsh Pony and Cob Society Bronze medal.

Bethan and Rhydian are now setting up their own stud and are living their dream:

"We are also very grateful to my parents," said Bethan. "We are using their stables and land to start with and we have a total of five Welsh Mountain ponies, including three mares.

"We hope to buy another foal shortly but Calon Lan will be our stud stallion when he is old enough."

The new stud will use the name Milwas after the family home and this will be registered with the breed society.

Bethan comes from a "horsey" family with two older sisters who take part in show jumping.

Rhydian started helping out at the Ceulan Stud and as he always had a love of horses as a youngster.

ABOVE: Bethan with Calon.

Proud owners Rhydian and Bethan.

How woods were reborn after elm disease struck

Richard Marks, warden of the Coed-y-Bwl daffodil park, gave a talk on nature conservation at the September meeting of Ystradowen WI.

He brought along some very interesting slides to accompany his talk, which showed the woodland area of this lovely park.

The woods, back in 60s, became infected by Dutch Elm disease and had to be cleared, which opened up the ground and allowed the wild daffodils and other flora and fauna to flourish.

He told of how some of the woods were restored, and of the large areas of wild daffodils in those woods at springtime.

Many of these had been planted years ago by a member of the Nichol family at Merthyr Mawr, and the daffodils have developed well over the years.

He showed many pictures of butterflies, moths, frogs and toads – all at different stages of their development, the butterflies particularly displaying beautiful patterns on their wings.

Also included were the pictures of the wonderful patterns on the beaches when the tide was out from Southerndown to Nash Point.

This was a delightful evening, rounded up with lovely cups of tea, coffee and homemade cakes.

The annual general meeting is on October 7 at the end.

Anyone who would like to join the branch will be welcomeat 7.30pm on the first Wednesday of the month at Ystradowen village hall.

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Derek (and son George, aged eight) **take run for heart charity in their stride...**

A BROUGHTON man, Derek Ward-Thompson, took on his toughest challenge yet – as a Heart Runner at this year's BUPA Great North Run for the British Heart Foundation (BHF).

Derek, aged 47, wore his official BHF Heart Runners vest and finished the half marathon course on Sunday in two hours and 37 minutes.

He raised £500 for the BHF and was in good company as his eight-year-old son George ran in the children's event the day before.

"I joined the Heart Runners team because I wanted to run in memory of my father who died of heart disease more than 10 years ago," Derek explained..

"Running the Great North Run was a big challenge and an incredible experience. The atmosphere on the day was amazing and I'm proud to have been part of the BHF Heart Runners team. Knowing I was running for such a great cause really helped me last the course."

Nancy Prior, head of events at the BHF, said: "The Great North Run is a major fundraising event for the BHF and thanks must go to all the Heart Runners and their sponsors for their support. The funds raised will ensure the BHF can continue to save lives through our pioneering research."

She added that heart and circulatory disease is still the UK's single biggest killer. All funds raised by the Heart Runners team will help ensure the BHF can continue working to beat heart disease through its lifesaving research and vital prevention and care work.

To apply for a place in the 2010 Great North Run visit bhf.org.uk/greatnorthrun or call 0844 4771181.

LEFT: Derek and George.

LEADER MARKS TOWN MILESTONE

Topping out ceremony at Cowbridge school

Council Leader Gordon Kemp with education minister Jane Hutt at Cowbridge Comprehensive, where structural work has been completed.

A TOPPING-OUT ceremony has been held at Cowbridge Comprehensive School to mark the completion of structural work at the site.

Vale Council leader, Coun Gordon Kemp, performed the ceremony, which was attended by Vale councillors, education minister Jane Hutt, headteacher Margaret Evans and Mayor Coun Emlyn Williams.

Coun Kemp said: "It is wonderful to see work progressing quickly at the site and I look forward to seeing the next stage being completed.

"This development will offer new and exciting opportunities for learners of all ages and the redevelopment of the school will provide much-needed specialist facilities to help deliver the modern curriculum.

"The council is committed to ensure that the new school will become an effective, valued and well used community resource," Coun Kemp added.

The Welsh Assembly Government previously announced an additional £5 million for the redevelopment on Cowbridge Comprehensive, allowing works to be completed in a single phase with an estimated completion date of September 2010.

RIGHT: Mayor Coun Emlyn Williams, Council Leader Gordon Kemp, education minister Jane Hutt, heateacher Mrs Margaret Evans.

Pirates on the starboard bow at Llanfair Primary

ABOVE: "There be pirates on me swing m'hearty..."

RECENTLY, the children of year-5 and year-6 at Llanfair Primary School attended lessons dressed as pirates.

This was to celebrate National Pirates Day on Saturday, and they are also covering pirates as one of their topics in class this term.

The children sang sea shanties in the school assembly and all had a fantastic day.

MR

EMAIL US!

● WE welcome your news, views and sports items. Please email them to the Editorial Department at: ggem@internet-today.co.uk

Porthcawl museum gains a top (official) **accolade**

PORTHCAWL'S museum is the tops – and that's official!

The museum, run by volunteers in part of the old police station on John Street, has been awarded the highest accolade by gaining accreditation status with CYMAL – the Council for Museums, Archives and Libraries in the UK.

Gwyn Petty, secretary, said it was a huge achievement and was the result of months of hard work by the committee led by John David with assistance from Carolyn Charles from the National Museum in Cardiff.

"We are very proud of what we have been able to achieve for the town of Porthcawl. We now have a museum which we hope will be of tremendous value to the local community for years to come."

The museum has been assessed over the years by a number of professional bodies. They have been benchmarked since 1988 and inspections encouraged all museums to look at the care of their collections of historical items and to foster public confidence in them.

Mr Petty went on: "By dint of hard work and the advantage of a permanent home in the old police station, by courtesy of Bridgend County Borough Council, the museum has been able to display its collection in conditions which are consistent with national standards and in which we have been greatly assisted by a professional curatorial advisor from the National Museum in Cardiff."

The museum was invited by CMAL to apply for accreditation in 2007- this is the highest standard attainable in the UK.

"We faced a strict examination of our credentials by a body of senior museum professionals who looked at what was expected from a museum like ours – a place which enabled people to explore collections for inspiration, learning and enjoyment.

"The criterion is that that we collect, safeguard and make artefacts accessible to all and ensure their safe existence for our society – which is what we have done."

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The Age Concern detailed above is a registered charity. The four national Age Concerns in the UK have joined together with Help the Aged to form new national charities dedicated to improving the lives of older people.

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Cefn-Glas pupils take a prominent part in Healthy Living Week

PUPILS at Cefn Glas Infants School have been taking part in Healthy Living Week (September 20-26).

The school has launched its own healthy food initiative, which includes a fruit and vegetable box scheme for parents, cooking lessons and encouraging children to drink more water and eat fruit and vegetables.

Healthy Living Week is also being marked with the launch of a new Health Challenge Bridgend website. It aims to encourage people to improve their health by trying something new or which they haven't tried for a while.

As well as including information on healthy living, the website www.healthchallenge-bridgend.org.uk also has a diary of local activities and a 'Lifestyle Directory' which is a simple search engine allowing users to find classes, groups or activities close to their post code.

The website has been developed by Bridgend County Borough Council's Wellbeing directorate in cooperation with BAVO, National Public Health Service, Bridgend LHB, and the Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University NHS Trust.

It was launched at a special event at Cefn Glas Infants School on Tuesday September 21, by Bridgend County Borough Council cabinet members Alana Davies and Lyn Morgan, along with Bridgend LHB Chair, Dr Ed Roberts.

Coun Morgan, cabinet member for Wellbeing, said: "Our Healthy Living Week motto is 'why not try' because there are so many little things you can try to do to improve your own health.

"That can include simple changes, like having an extra piece of fruit a day, or leaving the car behind and walking instead.

"There are also lots of excellent local activities on offer, like free walks with expert local guides, Nordic walking and cookery demonstrations.

" I hope everyone will look at the new website for their day by day guide of what is happening."

'YUMMEE...and we know it's good for us!'

COUNCIL FIGHT FOR CYCLE TRAIL FUNDING

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

The council is now fighting to get funding for up to 20 miles of trails to be created in the valley on top of what already exists.

The trails would be created through the forestry and would give cyclists a link from the Garw over to the Afan and from there either to the Afan Argoed or Glyncorrwg.

"Our feasibility study has gone everywhere and we hope to get some backing.

We are also employing a professional fund raiser to find sources of money for us," he added.

The council is conscious of the fact that at present there is little accommodation locally and residents are being asked to consider turning their homes into guest houses.

The cycling tourism will go hand in glove with the development of tourism connected to walking, including Nordic walking.

"The aim is to provide a walkers' lodge in the Garw where they can stay so that we can become a walking hub," Mr Davies said.

Angling could offer a further tourism arm, with the lakes attracting anglers who could purchase a daily ticket.

The transformation of the Garw started some years ago when the old tips were swept away and landscaped in a major land reclamation scheme.

Four lakes were created at that time which are now leased to the community council, along with another 200 plus acres of land.

The council already employs two full time countryside wardens and is publishing literature on local trails and walks.

New cycle route will link Caerau to Croeserw...

A NEW community route is to be created linking Caerau to Croeserw.

The track, which will be suitable for cycling and walking, is being provided by Sustrans Cymru as part of the Valleys Regional Park plan.

Bridgend County Borough Council will receive a grant of £250,000 to build the one-mile route within the Llynfi Valley. Funding is coming from the Welsh Assembly Government's Regional Park Project.

The scheme will see the creation of a direct cycle and pedestrian link from Maesteg to the Afan Valley, which has built up a successful tourism industry based around mountain biking.

The project will help create links between the two valleys and could see some of the visitors to the Afan Valley stay in accommodation in the Llynfi.

Caerau is one of the most deprived wards in Bridgend and part of it is the 13th most deprived area in Wales.

Providing surfaced cycle and walkways will help with safe, healthy and affordable transport routes for people without cars.

BCBC has developed a network of community routes in the Garw and Ogmore valleys, but the Llynfi remains the only one not to have an extensive community route network.

A route was created in 2000 by Groundwork from Nantyffyllon to Caerau.

A second phase from Caerau to the old Caerau colliery site in the north of the valley was never implemented, but will now be built as part of the new project.

A new link will also be needed from there through to Croeserw in the Afan valley, using private land.

The Valleys Cycle Network (VCN) was launched in 2007 by the sustainable transport charity Sustrans Cymru, and is a vision of a network of 227 miles of new walking and cycling routes across the South Wales valleys.

The VCN includes the Llynfi to Afan link. This project will cost £22m in total over three years, and sets out to improve the valley areas of south east and south west Wales.

Sustrans has a budget of £250,000 for the Llynfi-Afan link and the council has been invited to manage the scheme and deliver the track.

The new route will run from Caerau to the border with Neath Port Talbot Council at Croeserw.

It will run over three separate plots of land – one owned by BCBC, one in other public ownership, and one in private ownership.

There will be a need for agreements with the private landowners as well as planning consent.

Detailed designs, costings and planning briefs will be produced as well as a community consultation scheme.

It is likely to go out to tender next April.

The route will be maintained under the highways budget in future and will be built to the highest adoptable standards to reduce maintenance costs.

Maesteg town centre 'alley gates' to keep out trouble-makers

GATES are to be placed at either end of a lane in Maesteg which has become a major source of trouble in the town centre.

The lane, which runs behind Plasnewydd Street and Talbot Street, will be gated by Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) after the cabinet approved a gating order.

Members heard that the lane is a crime and anti-social behaviour hot spot. Residents have complained bitterly about drug users and drinkers hanging about in the lane, and also of vandalism to their rear gates.

A trader whose property backs onto the land, said that everyone welcomed this move because of all the problems.

He said: "Apart from the litter, the lane is disgusting, with people using it to urinate and defecate at night. Somebody was attacked in it and one night, back gates were kicked in as a gang rampaged through there."

The report to cabinet from Louise Fradd, corporate director of communities, said that alley gating was a positive form of crime prevention that reduces the opportunity to commit crimes like burglary, and also closes down escape routes for criminals.

It also reduces the opportunities for people to indulge in anti-social behaviour and results in reduced crime and disorder.

The report went on: "Gates placed in Elder Lane in Bridgend have been effective in reducing the amount of discarded needles, alcohol related litter, graffiti and public urination, and resulted in other benefits."

A report commissioned by the Community Safety Partnership into the Maesteg lane discovered from official crime data that 59 crimes and 17 incidents of anti-social behaviour were recorded within a 12-month period from September 2007.

They said that installing the gates would reduce crime and anti-social behaviour and also reduce the fear of crime.

An informal consultation with residents and businesses has been held to assess the level of public support for the scheme, and this was followed by a formal consultation in July and August this year.

The responses indicated general support for the scheme and there were no objections.

The council will now commission the manufacture of the gates, which will be installed within six weeks.

All residents and businesses, plus the public utilities, will be given keys ready for when the gates are in use.

The scheme will cost £10,000 and the money has been provided by the Community Safety Partnership.

The council has the power to make the gating order under the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act of 2005.

No council classes in Welsh for adults

THE Bridgend County Borough Council has given The GEM a statement following our report last week about new adult education classes that are due to start in Bridgend during October.

A spokesman said that although Welsh classes had been included in their community learning brochure in previous years, the council has never provided Welsh classes for adults.

These have historically been delivered by Welsh for Adults and Bridgend College.

She added that the 2009 adult education classes are run at various centres but for one night per week.

The old practice of running classes on more than one evening at certain centres has been discontinued, because numbers were not high enough to sustain them.

Young Seasiders' Stash kit!

PORTHCAWL RFC under-15s sport their new innovative 'Stash' kit sponsored by 'New You Clinic' and Birchwood Portable Accomodation.

Slow start handcuffs Police

THE visitors Cwmgwrach opened the scoring with a try after some poor defence from a scrum saw the ball go wide to put the scorer over in the corner for an unconverted try.

The Police found themselves under the cosh, but their defence held strong to keep the visitors to just one more converted try before the interval.

The Police back line always looked dangerous and a well-executed move saw centre Darryl Thomas cut his way through the Cwmgwrach defence and go over for a well-deserved try, Outside half Ryan Miles added the extra two points.

Going into the last quarter, long precise kicks from Miles saw the visitors pinned back and defending in their own 22 on several occasions.

Scrum half Haydn Williams caused the visitors no end of problems and came close to crossing the line on several occasions. This turned into a fiery encounter and the visitors got the victory they deserved and were happy to add another two penalties to the score, stealing from the Police what would have been a well deserved bonus point.

Prominent for the Police were flanker partnership of Jason Davies and James Groom, while full back Adam Hale put in a solid performance. Centre Rod Jenkins always looked dangerous with ball in hand, but the performance of the day had to go to the Police scrum half Haydn Williams.

SOUTH WALES POLICE RFC	**7**
CWMGWRACH RFC	**18**

Next week the Police travel to Cefn Cribbwr and will need to start from the first whistle if they want to get some league points in the bag. **BS**

PET DEATH: TESTS CLEAR

POLICE have confirmed that tests carried out on soil and water in Porthcawl following the death of a dog have come back clear.

PCSO Leighton Rees said that the Public Protection department, which took soil and water samples from land at Lock's Lane, had revealed that they were all negative.

The spaniel belonging to a local couple died after being exercised on the site.

He said that he was only aware of the death of the one dog which the owners had reported to police. He had heard rumours of other dog deaths but nobody had made a formal report to police.

He urged pet owners who have lost their animals through suspected poisoning in Porthcawl to contact police, Porthcawl Town Council or BCBC's Public Protection department.

School pupils get active at the seaside

PHOTOGRAPHS by MALCOLM NUGENT

PUPILS from schools in Bridgend county borough spent a day at Rest Bay, Porthcawl, as part of a council scheme to get them involved in more sport and physical activity.

They had surfing lessons, and played a variety of beach games, including volleyball and touch rugby.

The event was organised by the nine 5 x 60 officers from Bridgend's Active Young People Department, together with BC surf school.

A spokeswoman said: "Our remit is to provide secondary school pupils with something different – something that the students would never normally try.

"So, it was decided, why not make use of the Welsh natural environment and take part in surfing?

Nine secondary schools in Bridgend took part – Bryntirion, Brynteg, Cynffig, Maesteg, Pencoed, Porthcawl, Ogmore, Archbishop McGrath and Ynysawdre.

After an energetic day tackling different sports, Billabong professional surfer Max Tucker, presented the trophies to the winning teams.

Coaches from BC surf school took the novice surfers out into the waves, while the event sponsors, Double Overhead, a local surf shop, donated various merchandise to help inspire further participation.

ABOVE: Archbishop McGrath pupils.

Unfortunately, the beach sand was not quite up to Copacabana standard for the volleyball!

ABOVE: Pupils from Ynysawdre Comprehensive School.

Max Tucker with a Llangynwyd pupil.

ABOVE: The overall winners, Bryntirion Comprehensive.

Brynteg pupils.

ABOVE: Cynffig pupils and (below) some of the Porthcawl Comprehensive pupils.

There was a large contingent from Pencoed Comprehensive.

Ogmore pupils.

LILY PAD STUDENTS WIN INTERNATIONAL FILM RECOGNITION

STUDENTS who attend workshops run by Barry-based film company Lily Pad Films, scooped awards at the International Youth Film Festival held at The Hub in the town.

Students, Zoe Williams, Ellie Herbert, Tomos Gapper, Jade Williams, Stephanie Railton, Courtney Rowlands, Josh Cole, Nicola Rogers, Lyndsey Rogers, Emily Carter, Ethan Baker, Alex Knill and Aaron Cumper produced a sci-fi romp exploring the dangers of the competitive world.

The young people named their film 'Buzz!Buzz!Buzz!' and scooped the Best International Student Film Award during the festival.

The film also won first place in its age category at the Zoom, Young Filmmakers Awards back in January this year.

Also, Bronwyn Ellis, Matthew Leon, Jasmine Williams, Ethan Gwyn and Ellen Bowen created a satire film based on media health scares, which was called 'The Message'. The students walked away from the festival with the prestigious award for the Best UK short film.

Drums and chants greet new arrivals at Atlantic College

ABOVE: Second year students wait to greet new first year students. PHOTO BY JAMES MENDELSSOHN.

IT was not quite the Hogwarts Express, but the arrival of coaches carrying the new first year students of Atlantic College to their new home, St Donats Castle, was certainly a magical sight.

The sound of beating drums, banging of pots and pans, chants and house songs, together with fluttering banners and flags from around the world accompanied the second year students and college staff's enthusiastic welcome.

In line with tradition, as they disembarked the coaches that had collected them from Heathrow, the new arrivals announced their name, where they were from and their assigned Atlantic College house.

The 173 first year students from over 50 countries, were embarking on a two-year International Baccalaureate diploma.

They were assigned to houses and dormitories of mixed nationalities, religions, faiths, beliefs, attitudes and socioeconomic backgrounds and then whisked off to Pembrokeshire for their first year camp.

This is designed to break down barriers, encourage team building, develop communication and prepare students for the holistic approach to education at the college.

Atlantic College

Open Days
for prospective students for 2010

Wednesday 28th & Thursday 29th October, 1.45pm – 5pm

With a range of presentations and tours, the open days are a great opportunity for those interested in studying at Atlantic College to get a feel for the college and find out how to apply.

Please register your intention to attend:
Tel. 01446 799000 or
Email: enquiries@uwcac.uwc.org

www.atlanticcollege.org

UNITED WORLD COLLEGES

WHAT'S ON – IN BRIEF

Photo exhibition

AS part of National Bandstand Marathon Weekend, Victoria Park will host a 'Music in the Park' event on September 27, from 1pm, with the Barry Brass Band and Professor Mystral's *Punch and Judy* show.

Running until October 25, a 'Vale Villages in Photographs' exhibition, mounted by local historian Tom Clemett at The Room in the Park, will be open from 10am-4pm daily. Photographs include Lavernock, Sully, Wenvoe, Dinas Powys, Rhoose and Llantwit Major. Entry is free.

BARRY Spiritualist Church and centre at Buttrils Road is holding a divine service with Marlene Abercrombie on Sunday, September 27.

Wick pensioners' autumn fayre

THE Wick and District Pensioners Club holds its autumn fayre at Wick Village hall, on Saturday, October 3, at 2pm-4pm.

Various stalls, a raffle and refreshments. Admission 50p.

Donations, please, on Saturday morning at the village hall, or call George Jeffery to make other arrangements on 01656 890386.

Win firefighter stamp packs

ROYAL MAIL pays tribute to the courage and bravery of the modern day firefighter on six dramatic stamps released this month –and readers of The Glamorgan GEM can win a set of these special stamps in this month's competition.

The Fire and Rescue Service stamps turn the spotlight on those who regularly risk their own lives to save others, including firefighters whose day job is a postman. To enter the competition to win a presentation pack, all you have to do is answer the following question:

Which of these is a famous fireman?

(A) Sam (B) Dave (C) Clarence

Answers on a postcard, marked ***'Firefighter stamps'***, to: The Glamorgan GEM, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge, CF71 7EL, no later than Friday, October 2.

Judge's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. Good Luck!

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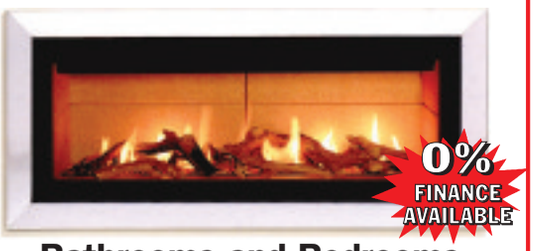

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Sunday 10.00am-4pm

CHRIST COLLEGE BRECON

Christ College Brecon will be holding a general Open Morning on Saturday 10th October 2009, starting at 9.30 am.

Later in the autumn, on Friday 27th November 2009, a Sixth Form Open Evening will take place, commencing at 6.30pm. At both events there will be an opportunity to meet the Head, Director of Studies and Heads of Department.

The 2008/9 Academic Year concluded with the best ever grades at A level results. An impressive 75% of all grades were A or B, and Christ College leavers have been accepted into a range of top universities. In both Maths and Science, 80% of grades were A or B, 96% of grades in the Art/Photography Departments were also A or B. The GCSE results were also the best ever with the overall pass rate for A*-C being 94% and an amazing 47% of grades at A* or A.

Christ College is one of the oldest and most successful schools in the UK. Founded in 1541 it occupies an enviable site on the outskirts of Brecon. There are 320 pupils at Christ College Brecon, a number which enables it to provide a real academic focus, an unrivalled extra-curricular programme, whilst giving everyone the chance to form close friendships.

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For details, visit www.christcollegebrecon.com or contact the Admissions Registrar on 01874 615440.

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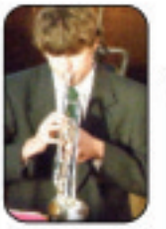

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or email admissions@christcollegebrecon.com

Youth organisations celebrate winning community award

TWO local youth organisations have each won a BT Community Connections Award – a laptop and one year's wireless broadband connection:

They are the 1st Cornelly Scout Group for boys and girls aged between six and 14 and the Rookies Youth Group – based at the West Camp Community Centre in Barry, which offers youngsters a safe environment.

A spokesman commented: "The competition was fierce, with more than 2,300 groups from around the country applying (almost twice as many as last year.)"

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Christmas Menu

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Barron or Roast British Beef with Yorkshire Pudding

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Young Mariners off to a cracking start

Craig Harewood, of Future Window Solutions, is the proud sponsor of the Master Mariners football team under-8s (right). Their first game got the season off to a cracking start with scores of 9-4 and 5-3 against Dinas Powys. Proud manager and coach, Lee Hewitson, congratulated the boys on their "brilliant performance".

AM's concerns over new club vetting proposals

PROPOSALS to make parents who volunteer with children's clubs liable for vetting and registration with a government agency have rung alarm bells with Conservative AM Alun Cairns.

He told The GEM that he had been contacted by some Cub and Scout groups already, because parents play a key role in providing help and transport.

He said: "I am asking organisations involved with children such as sports clubs, Brownies, Cubs – whatever, to get in touch and explain how they may be affected and how the new rules would impinge on their activities.

"I think we need to get a full picture of how these proposals would actually work out in the real world."

Mr Cairns said that everyone would support moves to prevent paedophiles from having access to children, but there was a danger that more than 11 million people would be forced to register with the Independent Safeguarding Authority or face criminal prosecution and a fine.

He said: "There must be some common sense introduced into this argument and I welcome the decision to carry out a further review of these recommendations."

"If we can get some hard facts together from organisations that are at the sharp end, it could help to ensure that we do not end up with excessive controls which would deter people from volunteering with these organisations.

"If that were to happen, it would be the children themselves who would be the losers."

Mr Cairns can be contacted at his Cardiff office: alun.cairns@wales.gov.uk

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PORTHCAWL PIANIST'S MARGAM PERFORMANCE

PHOTOGRAPHS by KEITH E MORGAN

ABOVE:
Faye with Mrs Janet Allen, the Rector, Rev Terry Doherty, and concert organiser Mrs Megan Inglesant.

ABOVE:
Faye with her father Anthony and her mother Pam.

THERE must be something special about Porthcawl Comprehensive School, because two former pupils are making a name for themselves as concert pianists.

The GEM recently featured a concert in All Saints Church by Rhodri Clarke (from Newton) and the Bolivar Soloists, and he returned a few weeks ago to play a joint concert with Porthcawl Male Voice Choir.

On September 11, Margam Abbey was the venue for a concert by Faye Gossedge (from Nottage), who is following Rhodri in developing her own career.

Very close call for Blaengarw

BLAENGARW	**7**
OGMORE VALE	**5**

BLAENGARW played at home for the second week running as the fixture against Ogmore Vale was switched to the Recreation Ground.

Home advantage and very vocal support from the home fans paid dividends as Blaengarw dominated possession and territory for most of the match.

Ten minutes in, Blaengarw gained a line-out deep in the Ogmore Vale half. Winger Jamie Pickett saw an opportunity and took a quick throw to replacement Durston, who sprinted for the corner and was only denied a try by a desperate cover tackle from Ogmore Vale.

Blaengarw weren't to be denied and the pack set up five metres out from the Ogmore Vale try line. The ball was spun to outside-half Lewis Davies, who burst through the defence to score near to the posts. Lewis converted his own try to give Blaengarw a 7-0 lead.

An ill-disciplined Ogmore Vale side conceded two late first half penalties but both kicks were pushed wide, and the first half ended 7-0 to Blaengarw.

The second half started with Blaengarw on the attack. After eight minutes, influential scrum-half Rhys Morgan chipped ahead from the halfway line for winger Jamie Picket to chase. Pickett beat his opposing number, gathered the ball and sprinted for the corner, but again a desperate cover tackle from the Ogmore Vale defence saved a try.

Fifteen minutes into the second half, an Ogmore Vale front row injury led to the adoption of passive scrums, but still Blaengarw controlled the match.

With 10 minutes to go, Ogmore Vale threw caution to the wind. A speculative break out from their own line saw the outside-centre break through the defence and sprint into the Blaengarw half, where he passed to the right winger.

The move continued with the ball being flicked back inside to the Ogmore Vale No 8, who drove over for a try in the corner. Although the conversion was missed, Blaengarw found themselves going into the final minutes of a match with a very slim lead for the third week running.

Ogmore Vale attacked straight from kick off and only excellent defence, led by Blaengarw captain Rhys Morgan, kept them at bay.

This week, Blaengarw weren't to be denied the win and a missed Ogmore Vale penalty goal in the final minute sealed the victory for Blaengarw.

AH

KENFIG HILL RUGBY ROUND UP

Great entertainment from the Mules

KENFIG HILL v TONDU

TONDU opened the scoring in this first team fixture when a sliced clearance kick was caught by scrum half Tom Grabham, who went over for a try.

Kenfig Hill hit back with a penalty by outside half Gareth Lewis, and after some sparkling passing moves by the Mules, Lewis jinked over for a try which he then converted.

Tondu full back Dean Thomas atoned for his earlier conversion miss with a penalty and then Tondu left winger Jon Humphries outpaced the Kenfig Hill defence to ground an awkward bouncing ball, Thomas converting.

Kenfig Hill went back on the attack and prop Lloyd Williams showed some excellent running skills, sidestepping his way his way over for his first league try for the Mules. Tondu came back before the break with a try by Ian Davies.

Half time score, Kenfig Hill 15, Tondu 20.

Tondu opened the scoring in the second half through open side flanker Nathan Brown , converted by Thomas.

Kenfig Hill came back with all-action blindside flanker Matthew Bate going over straight from the drop out, Lewis converting.

Ian Davies scored his second try of the afternoon for the Waterwheelers, but Kenfig again came back through second row Scott Richards, who bulldozed his way over, with Lewis putting over another conversion..

With Kenfig then going all out for the winning score, Thomas put over a final penalty for Tondu to seal a win.

Final score: Kenfig Hill 29, Tondu 35.

For Kenfig Hill, flanker Gavin Ansen gave a man- of-the-match performance, with scum half Tom Briggs again playing well. Hooker Scott Waller had a good game, particularly with his accurate throwing in.

KENFIG HILL/CORNELLY YOUTH v PONTYCYMMER

CORNELLY Youth played well to defeat Pontycymmer Youth 51-0 in this District Cup game.

Deeke Morse shone with three tries, Lewis Morgan scored two and a conversion, and winger and captain Shaun Burnell went over for two tries. Dan Wright completed the try scoring with a superb solo effort. John Matthews put over three conversions and a penalty.

This was a good all round team performance with John Matthews and Shaun Burnell standing out.

MINI RUGBY

KENFIG HILL under-7s and under-8s played host to Cwmavon, both clubs doing themselves proud, playing entertaining running rugby in an excellent spirit.

After an end-to-end game, the under-8s shared the spoils with their visitors, drawing five-all. Kieran Tantum, with some fine play in both attack and defence, led the way scoring two tries. Oliver Roberts sprinted clear of the defence to score his first-ever try, with Rhys Perry and Harry Cooper continuing their fine scoring form.

Captain Luke Tozer tagged well and Jack Rundle had an excellent debut, working especially hard at chasing-down the ball carrier.

The under-7s then played the same Cwmavon under-8s team.

Defence was the key to success, restricting the opposition to a single score. Superb tagging from every player, but particularly Oliver Pinches, Connor Jenkins and Joshua Jones, meant the Mules turned over their opponents numerous times, often driving them backwards.

Try-machine Jack Davies picked up a brace of tries, as did captain Alex Underhill, including one after a weaving run through the heart of the opposition.

An impressive 4-1 victory was secured to maintain the under-7s unbeaten record.

UNDER-9s

KENFIG HILL under-9s played Taibach on another beautiful sunny morning.

Kenfig Hill had 16 players turn up, and coaches Matthew Brace, Owen Pengilly and Martin Burnell made sure that everyone had game time.

Kenfig got off to a flyer in the first half. Some tremendous pressurising from Phillip Burnell led to Taibach making mistakes, and Connor Brace seized an interception and went half the length of the field to score.

The Mules went on the rampage then, with excellent tries from Jack Underhill, Dante Phillips, Connor Farnham and another from Brace to be 5-0 up at half time.

The coaches rang the changes and there was some excellent defending from Jay McCarron, Leon Jones and Connor McCarthy, but they couldn't stop Taibach coming back into the game at five-all.

More changes were then made to ensure everyone got a game, and with only seconds remaining, Connor Brace scored a lovely solo try to win the game with his hat-trick.

Final score: Kenfig Hill 6, Taibach 5.

IN the second match, Cwmavon only had seven players, and they agreed to play three thirds, so the Mules could give everyone an opportunity to play.

There was again some ferocious tackling from both teams, but some lovely running, support work and passing from Kenfig gave them the edge.

Tries from Nico Evans (two), Connor Brace (two), Jack Underhill and Dante Phillips essentially gave the young Mules the win, but the overall play of Philip Burnell, Corry Bower, Leon Jones, Connor Farnham and Cameron Jenkins paved the way for others to score.

Special mentions too, for Kyle Williams and Connor McCarthy, who were tremendous in the loose, but the top player in the match was Connor Morgan, his defence, his attack, his overall attitude was spot on. Well done The Mules.

Final score: Kenfig Hill 6, Cwmavon 4.

UNDER-12s

THE Mules under-12s continued their winning start to the season with a hard-fought game against a well-organised Maesteg Welsh side.

The game was played at a frantic pace, with both teams taking the ball on at every occasion. The breakthrough came when the Mules pack secured quick ball just inside the Maesteg half, and this was taken down the blindside by scrum half Connor Tantum, who fended off three tackles along the touch line to speed over.

The mules started to take control at the ruck and maul area. To the fore again in this forward battle were Lewis Rees, Ethan Jenkins and Steffan Moody.

Sam Young and Cameron Rees made good headway during the later periods of the game, with continued support from the forwards. Josh Dixon scored on the blindside, beating three Maesteg players. This was another excellent team performance by all players.

Final score: Kenfig Hill 14, Maesteg 0.

Try scorers were Connor Tantum and Josh Dixon, conversion, Connor Tantum (two).

We would like to send Greta Rogers, who has recently been admitted to hospital, our best wishes and hope for a speedy recovery

GO'S

Under-10s sweep aside the Ravens

THIS was a totally one-sided under-10s fixture, with Porthcawl beating Valley Ravens by 50-0!

The under-10s scored eight tries with no reply from a brave Ravens team.

The tries were scored by Louis Protheroe (four), Callum Morgan, Zakk Furness-Jones, Joe Beale and Harry Beale. Five of the tries were converted by Ethan Waters, Ben Collins, Zakk Furness-Jones, Joe Beale and Brandon Cooper.

The man-of-the-match was Zakk Furness-Jones and the rest of the squad were Joe Stradling, Dan Williams, Matthew Roberts, Max Budding, Kurtis Pridmore, Ben Davies, Ben Roach, Connor Harrington-Pittam and Sam Edwards.

IB

Athletic under-8s in very close matches with Rumney visitors

THE first game started well for the Ath, with two early tries scored by Jordan Gittins.

Rumney hit back with a good try of their own. Daniel Elias, Rhys Thomas and Callum Taylor all worked hard in defence and Lloyd Bennett, Lloyd Anthony, Fynn Mordecai had strong games in attack.

Rumney turned up the pace before half time and scored three tries in a row to put them ahead.

The Ath showed great determination and again Jordan Gittins scored. Rumney played some really good rugby and got their reward with a try, the last play of the half.

The second half started at a fast pace and the Ath got the first score, with Jordan Gittins again crossing the try line. With both sides working hard in defence and attack, this was an exciting game to watch.

Rumney scored again from a set piece but again Jordan Gittins broke away and scored another try to level the scores.

With time running out Rumney hit back again and the Ath boys thought that was it, but from the restart, the boys raced deep into Rumney territory and yet again Jordan Gittins picked up the ball and raced over on the last play of the game to score and draw the game.

Final score: Bridgend Ath 7, Rumney 7.

THE second game saw the Ath change all seven players and again everyone performed.

Oliver Gibbs, Connor Lees, Ryley Howells all worked hard in attack and on many occasions got deep into opposition territory, but the Rumney defence was strong.

The Ath pressed and scored first with a good try by Euan Rees, but Rumney just came straight back and scored from the restart.

The Ath scored again after a strong run by Ieuan Pippin, who passed to Euan Rees, who showed good speed to race over in the corner.

Another good move by Rumney evened up the scores yet again. The Ath boys worked hard and got their reward with two more tries, first by Ieuan Pippin and the second by Daniel Elias who scored from a great pass by Thomas Lewis.

On the half time whistle the Ath were four tries to two up.

The second half started at a furious pace. Rhys Thomas, Jordan Gittins and Connor Lees again tagged well and stopped Rumney from scoring on many occasions, but a missed tag let Rumney through and a couple of good passes put them in to score again.

With time against them, Rumney pushed hard to score again but a loose pass gave the ball back to the Ath.

From the tap, Rhys Thomas took the ball on a strong run and passed to Connor Lees, who scored in the corner with only a minute to play.

Rumney again showed their determination and scored in what was the last play of the game.

Final score: Bridgend At 5, Rumney 4.

Player-of-the-match went to Euan Rees for a good all round performance.

AB

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Tea's up for local church!

THE Church of St John the Baptist, Llanblethian has had some vital facilities installed – a new kitchen and toilet.

Among the people "delighted" to see the completed work were the Mayor of Cowbridge with Llanblethian, Coun Jon Harris, Coun Geoff Cox, Sue Flower, and Norman Williams – pictured above with members of the congregation who helped to raise funds.

Boy 'critical' after rescue makes good recovery

CREWMEN from Barry Dock RNLI raced to the rescue after three boys were swept away by a riptide last Saturday (September 19).

Gerry Adams, spokesman for Barry RNLI said: "Three boys were swimming in good sea conditions. One got into difficulty and the others tried to help.

"Two managed to get ashore suffering with hypothermia."

Volunteers from the Barry Dock RNLI launched the Trent class lifeboat and its boarding boat to search the Whitmore Bay (Barry Island) area for the third boy, under the command of coxswain Hugh Davies.

Mr Adams continued: "The boy was located by the lifeboat crew and was taken onto the RNLI boarding boat.

"Dean Caldwell, an ambulance service technician, who is one of the RNLI volunteer crew members, went aboard to provide first aid.

"The boy was transferred ashore, where RNLI lifeboat crew Dean Caldwell, Josh Brown and Dave Brooks continued to provide first aid until an RAF helicopter arrived with three paramedics on board."

The boy was airlifted to the University Hospital Wales, where he was reported to be in a critical condition.

RNLI volunteers visited him in hospital on Tuesday and reported that he was making a full recovery.

The two other boys were taken to hospital butwere later discharged.

Gerry Adams added: "The RNLI is a volunteer organisation that relies on the public for funding. A rescue such as this shows that the money is well spent."

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How Parliament works...
(No 1) Select Committees

WESTMINSTER NOTEBOOK

Bridgend MP MADELEINE MOON writes an exclusive monthly report from Westminster for The GEM.

OVER the coming weeks, I plan to write a number of articles about aspects of the work in Parliament that you may not know about, or want to understand further.

These articles come out of a number of conversations over the recess. One person asked me what I did all day when I was not in the Commons Chamber. Someone else asked why the Speaker never seemed to call me when I was standing to ask a question, despite her shouting at the television set. (*I will pass that question on to the new Speaker*).

A large part of my work at Westminster is taken up with twice-weekly meetings of the Defence Select Committee. Select Committees were set up in 1979 to scrutinise the working of each government department, (Health, Transport etc) internal House matters, (the Modernisation Committee) regions (Wales, Scotland) or crossing cutting areas (Environmental Audit, Public Administration). There are currently 19 departmental select committees.

Committees fold and are established as departments are realigned and changed. In October 2008, a new Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) was created so a new select committee to scrutinise its work was created.

The scrutiny role of the committees centres around 10 core tasks and four main objectives which are written to make sure consistency, while also allowing flexibility.

The first objective is to examine and comment on the policy of the department. This includes examining new and existing policy proposals, especially where they are felt to be not working well, and to make proposals for new policy.

Draft legislation and any documents detailing the work of the department are also scrutinised.

The committees monitor expenditure by the department, its agencies and non-devolved public bodies (NDPB). In defence terms, this remit is very large. The departmental budget for 2010 is £36.9 billion which does not include spending on urgent operational requirements (UARs) which are funded directly by the Treasury. This process is used to fast-track procurement of new or addition equipment or expenditure.

The department also has a wide range of agencies such as the Defence Vetting Agency, the Veterans Agency and the Analytical Services Agency which compiles defence statistics.

Finally. there are the NDPBs with a host of responsibilities such as museums, the Advisory Commission on Conscientious Objectors and the Pay Review Body.

The third objective is to examine the administration of the department, including major appointments, the implementation of legislation and policy initiatives, how targets are met and how effectively the NDPB and Agencies are working.

This objective also looks at how the department is meeting its Public Service Agreements or performance targets. The Defence PSA for example, looks at recruitment and retention of military personnel.

In 2008, the PSA report found there was no change in Army recruitment and retention but slight reductions for both the Royal Navy and Royal Air Force.

The final core task for a select committee is to produce reports which are suitable for debates in the House.

You may remember that a recent report by the Defence Committee on helicopter capability created

considerable debate both in the Commons and media. To cover this wide range of tasks, committees can call for evidence and records, employ special advisors and meet during the adjournment of the House. Many people will remember Dr David Kelly's appearance in front of the Foreign Affairs Committee.

Researching and reading during inquiries is extensive and takes up considerable time.

Until recently, Parliamentary Private Secretaries (PPS) were not allowed to also sit on select committees. When I became PPS to Jim Knight MP, Minister of State at the department of Children Schools and Families, I had to step down from the Environment Food and Rural affairs Select Committee (EFRA).

The rules have now changed and it is possible to sit on a select committee, so long as you are not a PPS in a different department.

Membership of select committees varies depending on government majorities. There are 14 members of the Defence committee with a majority of government members (7) while the chair is an opposition member.

Each party has different procedures for selecting members of the committees, but most appointments are vetted by the whips.

As the work of the committees has grown, it is felt that some members no longer seek to serve on committees as they feel they take time away from constituency work.

The meetings of select committees are broadcast and have a large following among those who have an interest in the working a department. They can and do show up departmental failures and provoke change.

Over this summer, you may well have heard news reports referring to select committee reports as 'an influence group of back bench MPs' followed by government's initial response.

I enjoy select committee work. It gives you a chance to get inside a department and its responsibilities. The reports are mostly consensual and rarely divide on party lines.

Meetings are not about speeches but questioning, probing and analysis. Those who are called to give evidence to select committees will usually regret being boring, trying to avoid questions or not having researched and mastered their brief.

Nil-nil, but plenty of good junior rugby...

THE Athletic under-10s knew they would have to step it up a couple of gears for the visit of Rumney.

Athletic under-10s.

The away team took to the field positively with an explosive start, hitting rucks and mauls with lots of aggression and they threw everything at the Ath boys, trying to get the first score of the game.

The Ath defence was excellent with the entire side putting in tackle after tackle. The Bridgend boys only offering in attack was some nice breaks from centre Harry Provstgaard.

The Ath finally started to get into the game but the Rumney defence was strong and, despite strong runs from Morgan Hughes, Matthew Hobby and Joe Grabham, the half ended scoreless.

The second half started with Rumney again in charge. The Ath forwards were second best at the contact area to the sheer competitiveness of the Rumney boys.

Finally, the Ath managed to secure some good ball and came close to breaking through, particularly when wing Will Mahoney broke away down the touchline but just put a foot in touch.

The closing stages were the best passages of play for the Ath, and they pressurised the Rumney line on many occasions but could not come up with the skill needed to cross the whitewash.

Matthew Hobby, Mitchell Davies and Jack Walker all made drives for the line, but defence was to rule the day and the game finished scoreless.

It was a good battle between two good teams who tried to play entertaining rugby. Ath man of the match went to scrum half Rhys Gamble who had to put up with scraps of ball and did his best.

The Ath greens squadwas Rhys Gamble, Mitchell Davies, Matthew Hobby, Jack Walker, Morgan Hughes, Joe Grabham, Jac Bassett, Thomas Zielinski, Will Mahoney, Harry Provstgaard, Nathan Willis and Chris Matthews.

Yellows making progress

NEXT was a very entertaining game between the development sides of both teams.

The Ath Yellows continued to progress into a group pushing for places in the Greens. Rumney provided the strongest opposition for the Yellows so far this season, and they scored the games first try.

The Ath boys went on a drive up field led by Angus Gregory, Ethan Bennett and Thomas Zielinski, and the move was finished off by Matthew Hibbert, who grabbed his second try of the season.

The Rumney boys then retook the lead despite good defence from Drew Cording and Sean Quick. Then, pure pace from winger Dylan Parry from inside his own half saw him beat all the covering Rumney defenders and race to the corner for a great solo effort.

The game was contested fairly evenly throughout but Rumney managed to spot a gap on the blindside and their winger sprinted in.

Drew Cording managed to free Dylan Parry with a nice pass and he raced in his second in a copy of his first.

Callum Morgan and Lewys Jenkins were top performers for the Ath but man of the match went to Dylan Parry.

In the last few minutes, Rumney came up with the match-winning try, which spoiled the party for the Yellows, but the coaches were proud of the effort put in.

Final score: Ath Yellows 21, Rumney 28.

The Yellows squad was Iwan Osbourne, Ethan Bennett, Angus Gregory, Matthew Hibbert, Lewys Jenkins, Drew Cording, Callum Morgan, Adam Murathodzic, Dylan Parry, Sean Quick and Thomas Zielinski. **LG**

RUMNEY PROVIDE TEST FOR ATHLETIC UNDER-9s

ON another fine Sunday morning, the Ath Green team played Rumney.

The Ath team started with such high intensity that the Rumney side were left shell-shocked.

Rumney had a weapon of their own, and what a Trojan he was but Trojans fall, and fall he did, several times, with some big hits going in from the Ath players.

It was the Ath team who dominated this half with three tries.

The second half was no different, with the Ath full of enthusiasm. The pack was working as one, with scrumhalf controlling and the backs working as a back line should.

This half saw two more tries from the Ath players. When announcing the player of the match, the coach stated he should have brought 10 medals, not just one, but one had to be selected and it went to Ffion Rebill, for her all round work load.

Squad: Gwiym John (captain), Jack Obbard, Ffion Rebill, Daniel O'Sullivan and Jade Thomas, Connor Fabian (vice captain), Thomas Anthony, Kasari Mehta, Megan Webb and Jamie Marshall at scrumhalf.

Ath Try scorers were: Daniel O'Sullivan (three), Connor Fabian, and Jade Thomas.

Final score: Ath 5, Rumney 1.

Spirited Yellows

ONCE again, the Yellows had to play the same side as the greens had, t

This was tough for them and with three of the Yellows having their first taste of rugby ever, the team were not fazed, they just treated it like any other game.

The backs tried to throw the ball around, but Rumney's defence was proving too strong. Rumney scored three good tries in the first half.

In the second half, the Ath came close to scoring on a few occasions but yet again were denied by some good defence work from the opposition. Another three tries were scored in this half by Rumney.

Despite the score line, the players are improving and did themselves proud. The running and tackle rate from Sam Veasey earned him player-of-the-match award.

Squad: Cai Robinson, Brandyn Fooks, Charles Crayfield, James Hermolle and Louis King, Sam Veasey, William Goodall, Josh Tidy, Daffydd Beech and Christopher Hart.

Final score: Ath 0, Rumney 6.

PO

HARVEST THANKSGIVING

THIS year, the parish of St Mary Coity, Nolton and Brackla will be holding their joint harvest thanksgiving service on Sunday, October 4 at 10.15am in Saint Mary Nolton.

The service will be an all age worship celebration, which will incorporate giving thanks for the recent Giving in Grace initiative which encouraged church members to give their time and talents in the service of the church.

One of the parishioners who responded to the Giving in Grace initiative was Kara Tobin, a local singer songwriter and native of Bridgend.

Kara has been writing and performing her own work for the past 14 years, and has kindly donated copies of her recent CD *Pure Inspiration* to raise funds for the parish.

Kara will be performing one of her songs from the CD, entitled Sleepless Nights, during the service.

Kara likes to tell a story through her songs.

On the same evening a parish evensong will take place at Saint Mary Coity at 6pm when the guest preacher will be the Rev. Martyn Davies, Rector of St David Church, Merthyr Tydfil and formerly of Coity Village.

The service will be followed by a bring and share supper.

NFU ladies hear talk from Parc prison watchdog

THE Bridgend ladies branch of the NFU held its first meeting after the summer break when the guest speaker was Mr John Homfray, chairman of the Board of Visitors for Parc Prison.

Mr Homfray gave an insight into how the board of visitors represent the prisoners with regard to their welfare, conditions in the prison and making sure that everyone, including visitors to the prison, are treated fairly.

Twenty people sit on the committee and they visit the prison on a rota basis, having access at any time, day or night.

They are called to oversee any incidents that occur in the prison, to make sure these are handled correctly.

They sample food that prisoners are served and also deal with any representations made from the prisoners.

The raffle was won by Mrs Rae Evans.

Mendes' low-key, offbeat comedy is a touching watch

SCREEN TALK

by GARETH JAMIESON

DESPITE having only helmed five films (and, I hasten to add, numerous stage plays), Sam Mendes' work has had more than the faint whiff of being skewed towards the awards season.

That isn't a criticism by any means, the British director having made the excellent *American Beauty*, the superb yet underrated *Road to Perdition*, the well-intentioned but lacking *Jarhead*, and the bleakly captivating *Revolutionary Road*.

What all those films had in common, particularly the latter three, was their air of austerity that made them feel more calculated than they actually were.

Consciously or not, Mendes' fifth, and latest, film sees him essay a film with a more independent aesthetic than his previous work.

In *Away We Go*, John Krasinski and Maya Rudolph play Burt and Verona, a couple expecting a child who, after Burt's parents inform them they are moving to Antwerp, decide that they needn't be tied down and go round America looking for the ideal place to raise their child.

Along the way, they meet many different people who help shape their attitudes to where home actually is, and the pressures and joys of starting a family...

Given how dramatic and stylish his previous works have been, *Away We Go* marks a radical departure for Sam Mendes, to the degree where if his name had been left off the credits, he would have been the last person I would have associated with this film.

Gone are the stylishly-polished visuals and dark, underlying themes, and in comes a film where the visuals have a raw beauty – with a story that is anything but dark, preferring to be uplifting and affirming.

Not only does this allow Mendes to show there is more in his locker, but it also frees him to create a work that is raggedly comedic and hugely watchable.

While Mendes has sacrificed intricate set-ups and wonderfully constructed cinematography for something far more immediate and real, it's to the benefit of the film, the road movie nature of the storyline blending well with Mendes' low-key look.

While it does smack ever so slightly of the visual approach taken by the raft of independently-made, dysfunctional family films that have sprouted in the last few years, it is to Mendes' credit that he balances this out with some gorgeous flourishes, adding a bit more quality and depth to the mix.

The screenplay, written by Dave Eggers and Vendela Vida, may be a touch episodic, but does lend itself to the nature of the story, while they manage to mine a neat line in offbeat and peculiar characters.

Sketching a story that offers little in the way of moralising, preferring to concentrate on the very real issues of finding your place in society and the world, and the issues that arise from that, the pair create a script that may feel a touch lacking in terms of dramatic thrust, devoid of any real conflict issues, but makes up for it with some moments of high comedy and tragedy.

The balance may not sit perfectly together, but it is certainly a script that gives the talented cast enough meat to get their teeth into – without it becoming too heavy.

The performances are, by and large, hugely attuned to the nature of the story. In the leads, both John Krasinski and Maya Rudolph are superb as the totally devoted couple trying to ascertain just where and what they should be doing.

Krasinski is hugely likeable as Burt, conveying a nuanced and relaxed turn without cruising on autopilot, and shows a sure hand with both the comedic and the more serious turns of the narrative.

Saturday Night Live star Rudolph is a real revelation here, having only plied her trade on the big screen in lacklustre efforts like *Idiocracy* and *Our House*.

Showing her flair for comedy, but tethering it to a turn that requires more, Rudolph is absolutely wonderful, her chemistry with Krasinski creating a couple you can't help but like.

The film revolves around the two characters for most of the film, but a supporting cast of actors deliver memorably slight turns, including Alison Janney as a parent seemingly devoid of any real parenting skills and Maggie Gyllenhall as an earth mother with an aversion to using a stroller.

Chris Messina and Melanie Lynskey provide the most heartbreaking turns as a happy couple with issues lurking below the surface.

The more cynical may point to the film's overly 'twee' and whimsical nature, and how it can feel a touch preachy in parts, slightly heavy-handedly labouring the point that home is where the heart is and you can only be true to yourself.

The less cynical, however, will find this a pleasing way to spend 98 minutes of your time, in a slight, but ever so likeable, film.

VERDICT – A low-key, and slightly offbeat, delight, *Away We Go* is a beautifully crafted film, with Sam Mendes' direction an unexpected delight.

Winning performances from the cast add to the film's charm, and create a likeably charming piece of work.

Highly recommended.

Another happy GEM winner!

ABOVE: The winner of our recent 'Who Drives What' competition was Valerie J. Wayne-Wills of Laleston, and she is pictured here receiving her £20 prize from staff member Gareth Jamieson.

Keep reading for more great Glamorgan GEM competitions.

The Children's Society stages Penarth events

THE autumn fayre held last Saturday in The Paget Rooms raised £1,524-82 for The Children's Society.

Our thanks to all who supported,donated or helped in any way.

Special thanks to The GEM for its continued support.

Ann Lush
Hon vice president
The Children's Society chairman Penarth Fundraising Committee
02920703547

OPEN GARDENS ON Saturday, September 26, two gardens are open in Penarth.

The first is at Waltham House, Bradford Place, Penarth, 10am-6pm. Refreshments, plants, cakes and croquet, a raffle and outdoor activities for children

The second is at 4, Tudor Close, Westbourne Road Penarth – winner of best front garden and hanging baskets in Penarth 2009. Admission £3, for parish funds.

Can you give Tarka a home?

Tarka.

THIS WEEK: Tarka is a three-year-old Lurcher.

"He is a sharp and lively young boy who loves to play with toys and is lots of fun. He particularly enjoys playing ball. He gets on with other similar sized dogs and loves a good run off lead to burn his energy.

"He would like to be rehomed to live with another dog for company. He will suit someone who has owned dogs before and he is suitable with children 14 years and over.

"He will need plenty of off-lead exercise," a spokeswoman said.

"All of our dogs are vaccinated, neutered and microchipped, and Dogs Trust offer free behavioural advice for life to anyone adopting a dog from us.

"If you would like to hear more about Tarka, please visit the centre at Court Colman, Pen-y-Fai, or call on 01656 724598," she added.

'Busy time for Barry Male Voice Choir

CONDUCTOR Dorothy Connell and the Barry Male Voice Choir are reflecting on a very busy first part of the year.

Many engagements have taken the choir to various parts of the country where, in keeping with tradition, the choir has offered its services in support of good causes.

Local concerts have been given at community halls, churches, nursing homes, at Art Central Barry in aid of the Mayor of the Vale of Glamorgan's charity appeal, and very recently at the International Christian Film Festival, held at the Hub, Barry.

Further afield, the choir's engagements proved to have a strong historical link. The choir's visit to Scotland has been the highlight of the year so far.

In addition to allowing conductor Dorothy Connell the opportunity of returning to the land of her fathers, it allowed the choir to sing in the most stunning of venues – the Church of the Holy Rude, next to Stirling Castle.

A later visit to the 900-year-old Norman Church at Worle in the West Country was followed by singing in St Cadoc's Church, Raglan as part of the music festival.

The choir was proud to welcome Darcie Hamilton, aged 13, winner of the Vale Young Singer of the Year Award 2008 as soloist at Raglan.

The choir now look forward to their annual concert at All Saints' Church, Barry on October 17, at 7pm, which will feature the Orwell Singers from Ipswich. Tickets (£6) are available from choir members.

Town's wartime exhibition is drawing to a close this week

LAST weekend saw one of the largest parachute drops since World War Two, when hundreds of British, Dutch and American soldiers re-enacted the famous battle of Arnhem.

The 'Barry and the Second World War' exhibition at Art Central in Barry, which ends this Saturday, is joining in the commemoration by displaying individual stories and photographs of local men who served with the Airborne Forces at Arnhem in September 1944.

Items of kit and uniform are also on display.

The exhibition has been a great success with scores of visitors. Organiser Dr Jonathan Hicks said: "It has been a fantastic opportunity to listen to the stories of the veterans of World War Two and the people of Barry who recalled, with great clarity, the nights that the German bombers flew over Barry.

"There has been a tremendous response and I hope to be able to stage another exhibition next year."

If you would like to contribute a story, a photograph or an artefact for use in a future exhibition please contact Dr Hicks on 07708 255295 or talk to him at the exhibition this Saturday.

The 'Barry and the Second World War' exhibition is open from 10am-4pm at Art Central, King Square, Barry. It ends on Saturday, September 26 at 4pm.

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THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (SULLY PUBLIC FOOTPATH No. 4) (TEMPORARY CLOSURE) ORDER 2009

The Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended), and of all other enabling powers intends in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice to make an Order the general effect of which is as described in the schedules below: -

SCHEDULE 1

1. No person shall proceed on foot in the locations specified in Schedule 2 below.

SCHEDULE 2

Location	Sully Public Footpath No 4, shall be closed from its junction with footpath Sully No 5 at grid 315193 167910 in a generally southwesterly direction to where this footpath meets the Council slipway at grid 314888 167894,
Alt. Route	The diversion for this closure will be via footpath Sully number 5, South Road, Hayes Road, and the access road adjacent to the civic amenity site that leads to the Council slipway and visa versa.
Location	Sully Public Footpath No 4, shall be closed from its junction with footpath Sully No 3 at grid 314505 167715 in a generally northeastely direction to where this footpath meets the Council slipway at grid 314888 167894
Alt. Route	The diversion for this closure will be via footpath Sully number 3, Hayes Road and the access road adjacent to the civic amenity site that leads to the Council slipway and visa versa.
Reason	To allow improvement works to the footpath.
Duration	From 6.00 Monday 19th October 2009 for a maximum period of six months or completion of works, whichever is sooner. Anticipated completion is 28th February 2010.
NB:	Every effort will be made to reopen this footpath when works allow

Dated this 24th day of September 2009
M. Punter,
Head of Visible Services
Vale of Glamorgan Council, The Alps, Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.

GORCHYMYN CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG 2009 (AR GYFER CAU LLWYBR CYHOEDDUS SILI 4 DROS DRO)

Bydd Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, gan arfer ei bwerau o dan Adran 14(1) Deddf Rheoli Traffig 1984 (ddiwygiedig), a phob pwer galluogi arall yn gwneud Gorchymyn cyn pen saith niwrnod fan bellaf o'r Hysbysiad hwn i'r dibenion cyffredinol sydd wedi'u nodi yn yr atodlenni isod: -

ATODLEN 1

1. Ni fydd hawl i unrhyw un gerdded yn y mannau sydd wedi'u nodi yn Atodlen2 isod.

ATODLEN 2

Lleoliad	Bydd Llwybr Cyhoeddus Sili 4 ar gau rhwng man cyfarfod y llwybr hwnnw a llwybr cyhoeddus Sili 5 (cyfeirnod grid 315193 167910) a man ymhellach i gyfeiriad cyffredinol y de-orllewin lle mae'n cwrdd â llithrfa'r Cyngor (cyfeirnod 314888 167894).
Ffordd arall	Pan fydd y llwybr hwn ar gau, bydd ffordd arall i'w chael ar hyd llwybr cyhoeddus Sili 5, South Road, Hayes Road a'r ffordd fynediad wrth ymyl y safle cyfleusterau dinesig sy'n arwain i lithrfa'r Cyngor.
Lleoliad	Bydd Llwybr Cyhoeddus Sili 4 ar gau rhwng man cyfarfod y llwybr hwnnw a llwybr cyhoeddus Sili 3 (cyfeirnod grid 314505 167715) a man ymhellach i gyfeiriad cyffredinol y gogledd-ddwyrain lle mae'n cwrdd â llithrfa'r Cyngor (cyfeirnod grid 314888 167894).
Ffordd arall	Pan fydd y llwybr hwn ar gau, bydd ffordd arall i'w chael ar hyd llwybr cyhoeddus Sili 3, Hayes Road a'r ffordd fynediad wrth ymyl y safle cyfleusterau dinesig sy'n arwain i lithrfa'r Cyngor.
Rheswm	Gwella'r llwybr cyhoeddus.
Amserlen	Byddwn yn cychwyn ar ddydd Llun 19 Hydref 2009 am 6.00am ac yn dod i ben cyn pen chwe mis. Rhagwelwn y byddwn wedi gorffen erbyn 28 Chwefror 2010.
Sylwch:	Gwnawn bob ymdrech i ailagor y llwybr cyhoeddus hwn pan fydd y gwaith yn caniatáu hynny.

Dyddiedig 24 Medi 2009
M. Punter,
Pennaeth Gwasanaethau Gweladwy
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ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

MARKET HALL NEUADD FARCHNAD

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

Market proud of its historic place at the heart of the town

THE heart of many of our towns remains its indoor market.

These ancient institutions date back many centuries – and Bridgend's is no exception, with a charter going back to Tudor times.

Over the years, the market has been located in different parts of the town – and its presence on a site now occupied by the bus station gave its name to Market Street.

But since Victorian times, the market has been at Caroline Street – originally in a purpose-built market hall, demolished in the 1970s to make way for Boots and the Rhiw Shopping Centre which incorporated a new market hall.

It is here that the market may still be found – a thriving and bustling place where local people can meet friends for a cuppa and chat in its cafes or do some shopping.

And it is surprising how much shopping it is possible to do. In the past, the market was mainly a provisions market concentrating on food stuffs. Well, there's still a good choice of meat, fruit, vegetables and Welsh farm produce like butter, cheese and ham available but there is so much more as well.

A Mediterranean deli gives a choice of something a bit more exotic while serious cooks can get everything they need at a special stall selling cake decorating and other supplies.

There is also a long established pet supplies business which had its origins in the old Bridgend market.

Another link to that old market is butcher Peter Wood who now runs his stall with his sons. He is the longest serving trader in the market, starting out in the old market 50 years ago.

It is a delight to browse among the many stalls in the market and experience the quirky selection of items on sale.

These range from buttons, threads and fabrics through baby clothes, ladies' clothing, shoes and slippers, bags, jewellery, Welsh gifts, second hand books, rugs, computer parts, vacuum cleaner supplies, mobile phones – and also offering a barber's and a nail stall.

Market manager Sara Hawkins said that there had been considerable changes over the years.

"There are lots of new and exciting stalls," she said. "We have quite a number of new businesses making a start here.

"In particular, the choice of food is getting better all the time with more and more variety."

She said that more and more people thinking of starting a business were realising that taking a stall in the market was a great way to dip their toe in the water, rather than taking on the much larger costs of opening a shop.

She added: "We also have a great traders' association here, with everyone pulling together – particularly at times like Christmas. It gives a great community feel to the market."

Cookmate

EILEEN has everything you need to make home and celebration baking a real joy.

Learn how to create professional-looking cakes by going on a course. Eileen runs cake decorating courses for Wilton, just visit her stall and book.

Anyone who wishes to start brewing their own must visit Cookmate. They stock a wide range of beer and wine-making kits, along with all the equipment and advice you might need.

Eileen's stall is overflowing with great things for getting creative in the kitchen.

A good selection of cake bases and ready-made icing motifs are also available.

Wiggly Worm Books

BARGAIN books in Bridgend! Over 4,000 books in store from all the big name authors.

Fiction, non-fiction, travel, classics, children's, plus much more.

A Welsh family-run business with stock updated daily from local Welsh charities.

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Next time you're in Bridgend, pop in and pick up a bargain.

FREE BOOK OFFER: Cut out this advert, bring it along to the shop and we'll give you a **FREE BOOK.** Choose from any of the 4,000 books in stock. One book per household.

Hellen Nails

FOR all your manicure and pedicure needs, come to Hellen Nails!
SPECIAL OFFER: 20% discount for 2 weeks only, from 18/9 to 2/10.

Old favourites, just like grandma made!

THE Teapot Café is a long established business with a new outlook.

We've decided to look back and cook all the old favourites properly, just like my grandparents would.

This is why we peel and chip every Maris Piper by hand and select every ingredient for quality. We ensure this by preparing the best home-cooked food we can.

We are also opening a take-away patisserie down the hall in No 7 – fresh baguettes and cakes for you to chose from or have your own made to order.

Why not visit for lunch and take your pudding for later? A warm welcome is assured.

The Rug Stall

THE Rug Stall has been well established in the market for over 30 years and is run by Alastair.

Friendly and helpful with a great range of rugs, it is a bit like Aladdin's cave, following the large expansion of their range some three years ago.

Laminate flooring now being so popular meant that sales increased. The Rug Stall reacted to demand by stocking an excellent variety of sizes and styles to suit everyone.

The range includes doormats to 100% wool handmade rugs, bathroom sets, anti slip kitchen mats, children's bedroom rugs, modern and traditional rugs.

Call in and have a browse next time you're in town! All major cards accepted.

Daffodil Gifts Ltd

DAFFODIL Gifts have traded in Bridgend Market for the past 16 years, originally selling loose china and giftware.

They carry a large range of gifts and figurines from importers such as Leonardo and Juliana.

The stall sells Welsh gifts and crafts and continues to expand this side of the business. They stock an extensive range of wooden love spoons and source these from various Welsh carvers. Prices range from £1.95 to £99.95 depending on the intricacy of the design and size of spoon.

The custom of giving a Love Spoon originated in Wales in the 17th century when a carved spoon would be given to a loved one bearing symbols of their hopes and feelings to one and other.

Come along and see our lovely collection soon!

Peter Wood & Sons Butchers: Half a century of excellence!

PETER WOOD & Sons - Butchers are celebrating 50 years of excellence and are now into their third generation!

Peter Wood was recently honoured by his fellow Bridgend Market traders for 50 years in the butchery trade.

Peter, originally from the Rhondda, entered the trade aged 16. After four years working for Brewer Brothers in Adare Street, he set up his own business and is now joined by his sons Tim and Daniel and his two grand-daughters Jade and Jessica, who also help out on the stall.

They specialise in all local meats from the south Wales area, including home-cooked meats, plus a wide range of barbecue, sausages and burgers.

Free local freezer delivery service - Tel: 01656 656985 - Units 2/3.

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ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

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ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

Gordon Woodbridge & Son – the deli on the corner

PURVEYOR of our own cooked meats, ham, turkey, Scottish beef, pork etc.

We also sell fresh Penclawdd laverbread and cockles and thick cut Danish bacon to go with it.

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Fone xcellence is our proud boast!

HERE we are now in our third year in Bridgend indoor market, where we provide all types of repair, which include LCD repairs, powering up problems, network signal, water damaged phones, microphones, speakers, charging problems, keypad problems, phone reconditioning, security codes, software upgrades and languages installed.

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Feel free to browse at Masfina in Bridgend

MASFINA Designer silver jewellery at the Indoor Market, Bridgend (telephone 01656 668558) specialise in handmade designer silver jewellery from Mexico.

Also, many other beautifully crafted pieces as individual as you. We are main stockist of Lovelink and Petite jewellery, including the new winter collection.

We also carry a large selection of natural pearls by Jersey Pearls.

Please visit us and feel free to browse www.masfina.co.uk

Ferranti delicatessen, coffee shop and fine wine outlet

AT Ferranti, we are proud to be both farmers of olives and producers of Superior Category Single Estate Extra Virgin Olive Oil produce from our own olive groves, which are favourably placed at the foothills of the Coll de L'Alba mountain range in Catalan, Spain.

Come along and sample our extra virgin olive oils, which have won awards from both the great taste and the true taste of Wales awards.

Coming soon, our own range of fine Spanish wines, produce from our own vineyards in the wine region of Terra Alta, Catalan.

Little Lambs Boutique

LITTLE Lambs Boutique is a specialist baby and childrenwear and accessory shop; we stock modern and traditional clothing from newborn to six years.

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Visit us online at www.littlelambs-boutique.co.uk

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Ribbons, buttons, fancy-dress materials and so much more.

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Our service has been established for more than 20 years and we are proud to be offering the same level of service as Durhan Chapple used to, and he is sadly missed by us all.

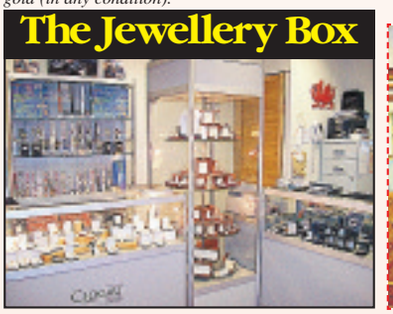
Jewellery Box is the place for Clogau Gold

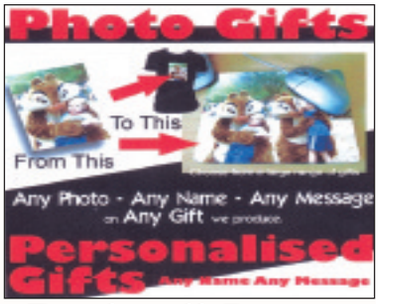
FIRSTLY, we would like to thank the general public for all the support they have given us since opening the shop, selling the beautiful Clogau Gold Jewellery, four years ago.

We aim to have the full range of Clogau Gold for the public to view first hand.

We also have the latest Clogau catalogue available for collection and viewing. We have also introduced the full range of Swatch watches and will soon stock Calvin Klein watches.

Lastly, we also give excellent prices for scrap gold (in any condition).





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2. Choose from our range of gifts, including cups, mousemats, keyrings, T-shirts, canvas prints.
3. Add any name or message in any design you choose.
4. Collect your gift. We have a range of services available, including a one hour special for those who need things in a hurry. (Limited availability).
5. Watch the smile on the person's face when they see the gift, knowing how much effort you have appeared to have made to create a unique gift just for them.

10 per cent discount off your order on production of this advert
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Offer ends 1st December, 2009.

Hair by Michael

SIAN, Julie and Michael welcome you to come in and enjoy a new hairstyle.

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Our gents' prices are from £5.50, Senior citizens £4.50 and under-12s £4.80.

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We also do ear piercing for £11.

Out and About with The GEM

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Contact us now for more information on 01446 748212 or 07866 715135 or email us on ptv@barry.ac.uk.
Hurry as places are limited.

IN BRIEF

Art social

COWBRIDGE Art Society meets on October 1, at 7pm, in Old Hall, High Street, for a social evening, with food provided by members and musical entertainment by the group Disrythmia. Non-members are welcome.

Llantwit talk

LLANTWIT MAJOR Horticultural Society meets on September 30, at 7.30pm, in Llantonian Hall, Llantwit Major.

Kevin Thomas of Bryncethin, will explain how to propagate favourite plants.

All are welcome. Admission and refreshments free.

SPECIAL SERVICE AT HISTORIC CHURCH

FRIENDS of the medieval foundation of St Lawrence at Lavernock Point between Sully and Penarth, hold a celebration of harvest at 3pm on Sunday, September 27, to which all are welcome.

Plans for the restoration work on the small listed building continue to allow it be used by the community for small exhibitions and musical performances, as well as lectures and discussions on the history of the church and the surrounding area.

The new Archdeacon of Llandaff, the Venerable Peggy Jackson, will be the preacher at this service.

Leading the congregation will be Friends' honorary chaplain, Rev Margaret Stark and the organist will be Mr Derek Lane.

Free parking is reached off Fort Road, the lane leading to Saint Lawrence from Lavernock Road opposite Cosmeston Country Park , passing the Marconi Holiday Park, where refreshments are available to non residents.

For further information, telephone 02920 707776.

Church breakfast

COME as you are to St Tathan Church, on Sunday, September 27, and join members for breakfast at 9.30am, followed by the service (including puppets) at 10.30am. Everybody will be made welcome.

Coffee time

A MACMILLAN coffee morning will be held at St Hilary Village Hall, on Sunday, September 27, at 2.30pm-5pm. *Coffee, tea, cakes and a raffle. Bring your friends.*

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- Throw a party with Dr. Bobs Balloons.
- Christmas orders? Go to Vic Hopkins butchers.
- MJM for computers and consumables.
- Smolanny's – new Autumn and Winter stock now in.
- Nip out for a bite to eat or a drink with friends – at Vanilla, Oriental Diner, Scarlets or the Borough Arms.
- Have the car serviced at Allsta Motors.

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HIGH-eST Quality!
BROAD-eST Choice!

Out and About with The GEM

Volunteers play vital part in food festival's growth

THE Cowbridge Food and Drink Festival returns for its sixth year next month (October 24-25) and festival organisers are appealing to local residents to volunteer at the tastiest event of the year.

With more than a 80 exhibitors and demonstrators in total, this year's festival is the biggest yet, growing impressively from the intimate one-day event of 2004.

The festival brings the best of fresh local produce to the main Market Place and Welsh Food and Wine Marquee, as well as the popular Champagne tent, and there will be plenty of children's activities and entertainment.

Demonstrations throughout the weekend include acclaimed food blogger and writer, Simon Majumdar, as well as some of the best local restaurateurs and producers.

Festival chairman, John Davies, is requesting that any willing volunteers get in touch to help out with stewarding and marshalling duties over the weekend, as well as assisting with the marketing survey.

He said: "The festival's profile and footfall has increased year-on-year, which is fantastic for Cowbridge itself. This year, we need as many people as possible to help us out with all the activities going on in the town."

● ***Anyone who would like to help, can get in touch with John on 01446 773171. To find out more, please visit www.cowbridgefoodanddrink.org***

Operatic autumn concerts

COWBRIDGE Amateur Operatic Society presents its 2009 autumn concert, entitled 'Show Boat' and 'Gilbert and Sullivan at Sea', at two venues.

On October 910, Cowbridge Town Hall, and on October 17 at Pontyclun Institute Athletic Club, Pontyclun. Both shows start at 7.30pm.

Tickets (£7) are available from the box office (0845 459 2605) or can be purchased on the night.

Local dance school offers a chance to perform

A VALE dancing school is offering one lucky dancer the chance to perform on stage at a live show – and anyone interested is invited to an audition in Rhoose.

Nerissa Thomas, a former professional dancer, runs the Vale School of Dance, and told The GEM: "I want to give a child or adult the chance to learn or improve at dance. With this in mind, I have decided to launch auditions to give someone talented an oppurtunity to dance on stage."

The audition takes place on Saturday, October 3, 12pm - 2pm, at the Celtic Commuity Centre, Rhoose.

Nerissa said: "At the audition, they will be given the opportunity to perform with their own music in any style of dance as a soloist, duet or group.

"If sucessful, they will be chosen to perform on stage in December, in front of a large audience."

She added: "One lucky entrant will also be offered free dance classes for a term."

For further information, visit www.thevaleschoolofdance.co.uk or e-mail nerissajju@hotmail.co.uk or telephone 01446 774449.

RNLI RACE NIGHT

THE Barry fundraising branch of the RNLI is holding a race night/chicken and chip supper on Friday, October 2 at the Cadoxton Conservative Club.

Tickets are £7 including supper. Please contact Jennie on 01446 734888 or Chris on 014546 732195.

The RNLI costs about £120 million a year to operate, this is raised totally by the hard work of fundraisers. To become a volunteer fundraiser, or to find out more on how you can help, contact one of the above numbers.

JW

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THE ARMY'S WAR – AREA'S ROLE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST THE WEHRMACHT

by Dr JONATHAN HICKS

THIS week's article was made possible by GEM readers who contacted me with information on relatives who took part in the battle against the German ground forces during the Second World War, which began 70 years ago next month.

DAVID RENDELL of Phyllis Street, Barry Island was called up on May 30, 1940. By December 1941 he was in North Africa, fighting against Rommel's famous Afrika Korps.

Serving with the 1st Armoured Division Support Group, he described conditions in the Western Desert: "One week elapsed and then our water started to get short.

"Nobody washed, shaved or drank for days, then we decided to use it only for drinking. In three weeks we were looking like prehistoric men with our beards. Still, we didn't mind, as Jerry was on the run – or so we thought.

"Then we saw action all right. Every day Jerry and the Italians bombed and machine-gunned us and on the third day two of my pals were killed.

"Well, suddenly Jerry pushed us back to El Aden and during that push our company was supplying the tanks that were fighting a rear-guard action and sometimes we turned infantrymen with them.

"Eventually, we got to Tobruk and then the hell started all over again. The company was detailed to supply columns that went out to ferret Jerry, and we always came back with men lost and wounded. Soon supplies were short and we were ordered to surrender. This was my first stage as a prisoner of war."

David Rendell remained in German captivity for almost three years, finally returning home on May 14, 1945.

Sapper Alec Close of the 73rd Field Company of the Royal Engineers was 24 years of age when he was killed 10 days after D-Day on June 16, 1944.

He had landed on Gold Beach on D-Day as a member of a beach obstacle clearing party. They landed close to Le Hamel sea wall at 7.30am and came under immediate and intense fire from machine guns sited in strong points in the village.

Separated from his comrades, many of them wounded, he proceeded to destroy the metal and concrete obstacles alone. His great courage and initiative at this critical moment inspired confidence in his comrades.

He carried out his work coolly and rapidly until relieved by another party.

For his bravery, Alec Close was awarded the Military Medal.

Lance Corporal Douglas Allison of Trinity Street was awarded the Military Medal in July 1943.

Serving with the County of London Yeomanry, he was the 75mm gunner in a Grant tank when a round became stuck in the gun and at the same time the inter-communication within the tank was put out of action.

Despite intense shell-fire he got out of the tank, cleared the jammed round and then continued to fire by his own observations. He had already destroyed many enemy tanks previously. Promoted to corporal, he was educated at High Street School where he received a watch for seven years' unbroken attendance. He was captured by the Germans in Normandy in July the following year.

Another Military Medal winner was **Lance Sergeant George Clark** of Windsor Road. He was serving with the Royal Artillery at the Anzio beachhead in Italy.

During the breakout, his battery was supporting an infantry attack on fortified hills north of Ardes.

He was ordered to extend a signal line forward to the battalion headquarters. It was dark and there was no time for reconnaissance. He had no map but received a brief description of the route from an officer.

With a line party, he set off across no man's land which was being shelled by the enemy. The line was cut several times but he repaired it, sometimes under machine gun fire.

Ken Jones wrote to me recently to tell of his experiences as a tank driver with the 13/18th Royal Hussars in Germany in 1945.

"We were to advance on Bremen and our reconnaissance troop had surveyed the area and given the all clear.

"I was the co-driver of the lead Sherman tank and we had travelled some 500 metres towards the town when a German officer appeared from behind a camouflaged position with a white flag.

"Addressing my tank commander, Lieutenant Garlick, in perfect English he said: 'There has been a 1,000-bomber raid on Dresden and thousands of civilians have been killed. This is not war! Sir, what is the point of any more loss of life? I have four 88mm anti-tank guns trained on you and could have wiped out your squadron (without doubt he could have as we tank crews dreaded the 88mm guns) and I can see Germany is losing the war, so why go on killing?"

"But for his common sense, I would not be writing this today."

Another Barrian serving in a tank was not so fortunate. **Thomas Howells** of Kathleen Street was aged 22 when he died of wounds received in the fighting in Normandy.

Serving with the Royal Tank Regiment, he had been called up in 1942. Prior to this, he had been a clerical officer in the Export Credit Department of the Civil Service in London. He had attended the County School and was a member of St Francis Church.

Sergeant John Langworthy, also of the Royal Tank Regiment, Royal Armoured Corps, won the Military Medal while serving in the Western Desert in 1942. He was killed, aged 26, in February 1945 during the Battle of the Reichswald Forest on the border between Holland and Germany.

An eyewitness described the fighting in the forest: "Dozens of tanks proceeding forward in lowest gear on a wide front through this dense forest of tall mature trees, crashing and smashing everything in their path.

"The noise was beyond anything you had ever experienced, both for sheer volume and for terror. Try to picture it: dozens of tanks in close proximity, with engines screaming hard in the confined acoustic of dense forest, and the continuous ear-splitting cracks of trees being smashed to the ground by brute power.

And the thought that you are, at long last, heading towards the enemy on his home ground, with unknown terrors ahead."

After a hard night's fighting, his unit, the 44th, had reached the railway line south west of Udem, complete with 150 prisoners, and four self-propelled guns and two tanks destroyed to their credit.

Their progress was slowed by the very boggy ground, which was almost impossible for tanks, plus the fact there was only a gap of a few hundred yards between the anti-tank ditch round Udem and the thick woods. The latter was full of infantry, with many Panzerfausts (German bazookas), who were supported by a few SPs, which ran all along the Brigade's long open right flank.

Three of the leading troop were destroyed by fire from a Jagdpanther on high ground to the east and heavy fire was encountered by a patrol of No 4 Troop, trying to recce the anti-tank ditches to the south east of Udem.

Then, while supporting the infantry to their objectives, the squadron lost five tanks to heavy shooting from the north and south west. John Langworthy was one of 15,600 Allied casualties during the battle.

Sgt Angus McIntyre was awarded the British Empire Medal in November 1944 for gallantry in India.

Born on Barry Island, he joined the Merchant Navy as a steward after leaving school and later worked at Rhoose Asbestos Works.

At the start of the war, he volunteered for the Royal Regiment of Artillery and had been in India for three years.

On July 22, an aircraft crashed and burst into flames.

Angus McIntyre immediately went to the scene of the accident and seeing that the pilot was still in the cockpit apparently unconscious, climbed at great personal risk onto the burning aircraft and extricated the pilot, saving his life.

The pilot was an American and when he came round, his first words to Angus were not grateful thanks but "Get me out of here!"

The writer's exhibition 'Barry and the Second World War', which opened for two weeks at Arts Central in Barry Library on September 12, is due to end this weekend.

On display is a fascinating collection of photographs, memories and artefacts showing the part that Barrians played in the Second World War

44th Tank Regiment.

Ken Jones next to his Sherman tank.

David Rendell.

Sapper Alec Close.

Eloise is the 'Ocean Ski Series' winner

RHOOSE lifeguard, Eloise Neighbour (17), has paddled her way to the title of British Ocean Ski Series under-19 Ladies Champion 2009.

On September 5 at Sandbanks in Poole, she won the final race in her age group and, having also won the previous two races held in Devon and Cornwall, she was declared the Series Champion.

Eloise is a sixth form pupil at Bryn Hafren Comprehensive School in Barry, and adds this title to the Welsh and GB under-19 Ladies Double Surf Ski Championships titles won earlier in the season, paddling alongside fellow Rhoose Lifeguard Lucy Curtis.

Eloise's achievements this season have been made possible by the encouragement and technical guidance from lifeguard surf ski paddling coaches Gareth and Karen Harris.

ABOVE: Eloise with coaches Gareth and Karen Harris.

Karate students head for Sweden

THREE students from the Rising-Sun-Kyokushin Karate club; Samantha Whitlock 4th Kyu, Gareth Jenkins, 6th kyu, and Mathew Dixon 9th Kyu, club flew to Stockholm Sweden to represent Wales at Wiklund Dojo in Gavle, where they will train for up to three months in preparation for the Dutch All Japan Kyokushin Union Championships in October.

The kyokushin full contact karate trio fly the flag for Wales and also hoped to compete at the National Swedish Championships. Gareth Jenkins will be completing the whole three months at Wiklund dojo. Gareth is one of the rising-stars in the Rising-Sun Kyokushin Karate club and hopes to take over Sensei Lee Bennett's place in the lightweight division under 70kgs.

The Rising-Sun-Kyokushin club train at Barry YMCA Hub Mondays 8-9pm, Thursdays 6-9pm and Fridays 6-9pm, Rising-Sun-Rising-Stars 4-6 year olds train at the Colcot Sport centre from 11am-12pm on Sundays.

For further information contact Lee on 07861699476 or visit the club website @ www.rising-sun-kyokushin.co.uk.

Second half burst wins the game for Sea View

THE SEA VIEW 2ND XV 40
STAR RFC 2ND XV 22

SEA VIEW RFC Second XV took to the field against Star Second XV, after the encounter last weekend between both First XV sides.

It was a fast-paced game from the start, and Star were first to score with an unconverted try in the corner from a well-worked move.

In the next 10 minutes, The View piled on the pressure and had their reward when Jay O'Callaghan slotted over a penalty kick.

Both sides battled it out, but the excellent efforts from The View defence could not stop a superb individual try from Star, which they converted. Star then scored a try shortly after, which seemed to take the steam out of The Sea View, but man-of-the-match, Jay O'Callaghan lifted them with a great try, and his trusty boot slotted home the conversion.

At half-time the score was **Star 17, Sea View 10.**

After the interval, The View came out of the blocks quicker and scored two early tries. This prompted some changes from manager Rob Huelin, with Ben Cotter coming on for Gareth Davies, who received a huge round of applause from all the loyal supporters and players as he was the first of the Sea View players to get 25 'caps'.

The View battled on, keeping possession for a long period, but once again were caught out by some individual skill and pace from the Star and conceded on 65 minutes.

The final 15 minutes showed great determination from all the Sea View players, piling on the pressure with great phase play, they got their reward when Ben Cotter powered over the line to score a try which was converted by Chris West.

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Family Notices

Edna May ADAMS

The funeral was held on Friday September 18 of Edna May Adams, who died peacefully in her sleep on September 9 after a long illness. She will be sadly missed by husband Garfield and family. The family wish to thank the doctors and nurses of Cowbridge Practice, staff at Y Bwythyn and Holme Tower Hospice and all well-wishers.

SWINNEY Mabel Catherine

The family of Mabel Swinney express their thanks for the help and support received during her tragic illness.

We are grateful for the many cards, messages, memorial donations and other acts of kindness.

Special thanks go to Dr Rosemary Kavanagh, our District Nurses and others involved in Mabel's medical care.

A special debt of gratitude is due to the devoted staff at Marie Curie Cancer Care, Holme Tower for their loving care over her final days.

Thanks to all who attended the funeral and gave her an excellent send off and to the Rev Malcolm Davies for the sensitive and moving services at St.Illtud's and Coychurch Crematorium.

Thanks to W.A. Brown & Son for the funeral arrangement.

Goodbye to a wonderful mother, mother-in-law, sister, grandmother, great-grandmother, post lady, hiker, swimmer, ballroom dancer and friend.

CATTLE Mildred Doris

Passed away peacefully at College Fields Nursing Home, Barry, on September 18.

Mildred, aged 74 years, much-loved mother of Len, David, Larry, Paul, Gary and Jane. Adored grandmother and great-grandmother to all her grandchildren. Loving sister of Colin.

Resting at A.G. Adams & Son Tynewydd Funeral Home, Gladstone Road, Barry, until the service in the chapel on Friday October 2 at 11.30am, followed by interment at Barry Cemetery. Family flowers only, but donations in lieu to the Royal Navy Association.

Thank You

THANK YOU

Kerrin and Richard would like to thank all their family and friends for making their day so special.

The Bear Hotel, August 20, 2009.

Gwen and Roy Baker

would like to say a special

THANK YOU

to their daughter Lynda for her thoughtfulness and excellent organisation.

Thanks also to all family, friends, relatives and neighbours for their many floral arrangements, cards and good wishes shown to us as we celebrated our Diamond Wedding Anniversary

Anniversaries

Diamond Wedding Anniversary
60 Years Together

Our congratulations and love to

Don & Doreen Stych

on your 60th/Diamond Wedding Anniversary.
Thursday 24th September, 2009.
From daughters, son-in-laws and grandchildren.
Carol, Patricia, Steve, Anthony, Nicola & Jonathan.
xxxxxx

TONDU JUNIOR RUGBY ROUND-UP

Under-13s too strong for plucky opponents

TONDU under-13s 12
PONTARDDULAIS 0

TONDU started this encounter the stronger and dominated early possession and territory.

The Tondu backs used the ball with good effect, spreading the ball out to Lewis Austin, who made several strong runs upfield.

The pressure exerted by Tondu finally told from a tap penalty five metres out on the far left as Lloyd Webb was able to force his way over the line to score a try converted by Rhydian Jenkins.

Tondu extended their lead through a solo effort by Lloyd Webb, who showed great pace making an arcing run upfield, intersecting the Pontarddulais midfield defence to score near the far left corner.

Tondu competed valiantly during the second period, although Pontarddulais won the majority of possession and territory.

Tondu managed to keep Pontarddulais out of their 22 and tackled manfully. Nathan Richards made several try-saving tackles, Sam Matthews showed up well in the loose play and made a last-ditch try-saving tackle.

Pontarddulais, to their credit, raised their game in the second half, however, for all the visitors' endeavour and silky running skills' they could not register a score.

EJ

Steep learning curve for the under-10s

TONDU under-10s played host to Cowbridge and Hirwaun, both teams being new fixtures for this season.

The weather was brilliant, some of the rugby breathtaking, but unfortunately the results were not the best for the Tondu youngsters.

Tondu v Cowbridge – Cowbridge won the toss and scored quickly as the Tondu youngsters struggled to get into the game. The first half continued with one way traffic, Cowbridge spreading the ball wide and Tondu unable to close the space down. The Tondu youngsters were very quiet.

The close of the first half came slowly for Tondu as they continued to try and stem the tide of Cowbridge tries.

The second half saw some new faces and fresh legs for Tondu, and a near complete change for Cowbridge.

Unfortunately, Cowbridge were still the stronger, although Tondu never let the scoreline get them down. Some good work from Tondu resulted in their only score of the game for Taylor Lloyd, against the six scored by Cowbridge.

Cowbridge were then kind enough to play Hirwaun as they had a larger squad, to allow the Tondu youngsters a breather.

Cowbridge came away as winners of this encounter, although not by such a margin. Tondu must have tired them out!

Tondu v Hirwaun – The second game for Tondu was not such a high-scoring event as their first of the day.

However, they found themselves behind quite soon as Hirwaun found space on the outside and outpaced Tondu to the line.

Tondu tried hard to get back a score with some determined work from their forwards and backs alike, taking the ball forward.

Unfortunately, they were unable to convert these good forays into points until close to the end of the first half, after Hirwaun had stretched their lead with two further tries.

The try was scored by Joe Duffill who, in his normal tenacious way, fought his way through the defence.

The second half saw a few changes to Tondu, but the game continued in the same vein, with Hirwaun in the driving seat. Whatever Tondu threw at them they were able to defend.

All the Tondu players had a go at moving forward, but their work was to no avail as no attack managed to get over the try line.

Hirwaun scored a further three tries in this half. Again, the Tondu youngsters showed real grit in continuing to attack and defend, even with the game moving away from them.

Full time: Tondu 5 Hirwaun 30

Tondu squad: Ben Merchant, Shannon Price, Josh Davies, Ioan Thomas, Taylor Lloyd, Joe Duffill, Iwan Knight, Ryan Kershaw, Jack Llewellyn, Morgan-Owen Evans, Eleri Knight, Declan Pugh and Morgan David. Star of the game was presented to Declan Pugh.

JK

Cowbridge under-9s too powerful for Tondu

TONDU under-9s came up against a well organised and committed Cowbridge team at Pandy Park.

Cowbridge got the game going with a determined attack, and Callum Vause and Jacob Thomas worked hard to keep them out, but Cowbridge broke through and got the first try of the game.

Tondu seemed to lose heart a little and were soon punished again with a further Cowbridge try, as Tondu were second best in the rucks and mauls at this point.

However, it was from a defensive position that some speedy hands from Luke Dingle released Ellis Mathews to get Tondu's first score.

Tondu's defence was breached again by a determined Cowbridge attack, resulting in their third try.

Before the break, good work from Lewis Oates and Morgan Strong released Nathan Harris to run in a try from deep to make the score 3-2.

Despite their efforts, Tondu had no answer to Cowbridge's offensive play in the second period and conceded five tries – Edward Dunlop, Daniel Mayne and Lucas King working hard but to no avail.

Speedsters James Murray and Cameron Keegans showed some neat skill and speed, but both went unrewarded in terms of a try.

A third period was played and Tondu returned to the pitch in a much more determined mood, scoring two unanswered tries through Nathan Harris and Ellis Mathews.

Harry Olding and Luke Brett showed great effort in the midfield area, and the Tondu players knuckled down and played the kind of rugby that they know they are capable of, and finished the morning with their heads held high.

Final score: Tondu 4, Cowbridge 8

Squad: Lewis Oates, Ciaran Edwards, Callum Vause, Luke Brett, Daniel Mayne, Edward Dunlop, James Murray, Jacob Thomas, Harry Olding, Luke Dingle, Ellis Mathews, Nathan Harris, Cameron Keegans, Lucas King, Morgan Strong.

MIXED RESULTS FOR UNDER-8s

ON a lovely Indian summer day, Tondu travelled up to Nantyffyllon.

Morgan Williams took on the role of captain for this game.

For the first five minutes, there was no score as both teams defended very well, with excellent tagging from Morgan Williams, Ieuan Wallis and Miles Olding, until Sam Tatchell darted down the touchline and scored for Tondu.

Much of the same from Fin Duffill, Cory Ryall and Jack Weeks continued for the next few minutes until, once again, Sam darted across the line for Tondu's second try.

There was one more dash for the line which saw some good handling skills by William Watkins and Ellis Rees, but Nanty managed to get six tags and that was the end of the first half.

The second half started off in much the same frantic way as the first half ended, with Nanty running across the line and scoring their first try.

Tondu were quick to reply, with the ball being re-cycled through the hands of Ethan Derrick, Coel Gifford and Toby Dowle, and Sam getting over the try line for his hat-trick.

Final score: Nantyffyllon 1 – Tondu 3

Tondu under-8s v Cowbridge under-8s

A BEAUTIFUL sunny Sunday saw Cowbridge travelling to Pandy Park.

Tondu captain was Ryan Neagle. Cowbridge ran in for the first try of the game despite some great tagging from Ieuan Wallis and Sam Tatchell.

Tondu got five metres from the try line, but the solid defending from Cowbridge stopped them in their tracks.

A strong Cowbridge team began their attack, but despite Tondu's best efforts to defend, Cowbridge powered once again over the line for their second try. A further attacking display from Cowbridge rewarded them with their third try.

On the restart, Finley Duffill got the ball and dodged his way through a mass of Cowbridge players (still with a smile on his face) towards the try line, before being tagged.

Thanks to great support work from his team mates, he passed to Morgan Williams, which resulted in Tondu scoring their first try.

Just before half-time, Cowbridge where able to score another try.

Tondu 1, Cowbridge 4.

The second half started with Tondu rushing towards the try line and Ieuan Wallis scoring an excellent try.

The following eight minutes consisted of both sides defending well, with excellent tagging from William Watkins, Miles Olding and Geraint Richards.

However, in the last minutes of play, Cowbridge edged towards the Tondu try line and finished the game on a high with another try.

Final score: Tondu 2, Cowbridge 5.

Squad: Ieuan Wallis, Cory Ryall, Ethan Derrick, William Watkins, Ellis Rees, Ryan Neagle (C), Coel Gifford, Toby Dowle, Sam Tatchell, Jack Weeks, Finley Duffill, Morgan Williams, Gethin Page, Miles Olding, Kieran Chalmers, Iestyn McCann, Geraint Richards, Lloyd Pitt, Joshua Tolhurst, James Holly.

SD

Under-18 Celtic Crusaders hammer Barrow

by JOHN THOMASSON

BARROW Laikers faced a tough game against reigning champions, Celtic Crusaders, who put the game to bed with a brace of tries just before half-time from Matthew Crane.

The Crusaders had crossed the line early, taking the lead after eight minutes with a try from Matthew McGovern, followed by one each from Crane and Sean Webber, making it 0-16 after 17 minutes.

A good spell from Barrow followed, but a brace of tries from Crane on 28 minutes and 31 put too much between the sides. A further try from Webber made it 32-0 to Crusaders at half-time.

The second half again saw Crusaders dominate with a brace of tries from Dan Godwin on 39 and 46 minutes, making it 44-0.

Matthew McGovern, David Young and Grant Carney all crossed in the second half, Young and Carney scoring after a good spell from a resurgent Barrow, only for Crane to score for a fourth time on the whistle.

Cadets are on form in swim meet event

THE swimming team of the Bridgend Air Cadet Squadron recently competed in the Wing annual competition in Llanelli with a string of successes.

Team captain Cadet David Edwards (14) took second place in the junior boys competition, in both freestyle and medley contests, and Cadet Sergeant Michael Ratcliffe (17) in the senior boys competition, took second in the backstroke and was part of the winning team in the freestyle relay.

The squadron's sole female representative, Instructor-Cadet Sergeant Catharine John (18), won the senior girls backstroke competition, and was second in both individual medley and freestyle, before teaming up with another squadron to also win the relay event.

Seeing off competition from 23 other West Wales squadrons, Cath equalled the points of the 60-strong Swansea squadron team, to single-handedly retain the senior girls challenge shield for the third year running.

She was selected, together with David and Cadet Matthew Williams (14) of Treoes (who was placed second in the boys individual medley relay with superb butterfly lengths), to represent the south Wales area at RAF Cosford in Staffordshire,

Cadet Warrant Officer Rhys Thomas (20), the team manager, said of the team's performance: "Outstanding, the support from the team was fantastic and I'm extremely happy with the result."

Team captain David Edwards said that the team was "very pleased with the good result" and that the event had been a great chance to meet new friends and catch up with friends, and members of squadrons from outside the area.

Cath John remained focused on the challenges ahead, saying: "I am really looking forward to representing 3 Welsh Wing at Cosford later in the year."

Flight Lieutenant Dave Biddles, Officer Commanding 1092 Squadron, said that he was "very proud of the squadron's achievements. Excellence always wins through!"

At its headquarters at Joslin Terrace, Coity, the squadron accepts membership for both boys and girls aged from 13years (min) up to 17 for a broad-based training and leisure programme of events, including flying and gliding opportunities, kayaking, digital photography, shooting, sports, community service and participation in the Duke of Edinburgh Award.

We meet on Tuesday and Friday evening at 7.30pm and are always on the lookout for additional volunteer staff, as instructors or as fundraisers on the welfare committee.

KM

'Ath' under-13s start the season in new team kit

Bridgend Athletic RFC under-13s players are pictured in their new kit with WPD's Andrew Coates.

BRIDGEND Athletic RFC under-13s have received new kit this year from the south Wales electricity company, Western Power Distribution (WPD).

One of the team's coaches, Andrew Coates, who works for WPD, said the new kits were a timely boost for the start of the new season.

He said "The boys were delighted that WPD was able to support them. They performed really well last season, so we hope the new kit will spur them on to greater heights this year."

Promoted team starts with three-goal victory

THE brand new season in the Bridgend Sunday 6-a-side Leisure Leagues Premier Division got off to a flying start this week, as promoted outfit B Attack claimed a 3-1 success over AC Brackla.

ABOVE: Croissants started with a win.

Croissants also got off the mark at the first time of asking with a 2-1 victory against Racing Inter.

Day Sleepers eased through 4-0 against FC08 on the first day in Division One, but Velindre Foundation Fundraisers went one better with a crushing 5-1 victory against Bridgend Allstars.

Hangover Heroes and Bluebirds both picked up a point on the opening day, as they shared a 1-1 draw.

If anyone is interested in joining the Bridgend 5 and 6 a side football Leagues, they can call 0845 230 2340 or visit www.leisureleagues.net

GOOD WINS FOR BOTH HUSKIES TEAMS IN CITY

THE Huskies played a double header against the Cardiff Capitals.

First up was the second team match on Sunday, which saw the newly-formed Huskies team play their second pre-season friendly.

Coach Cooper was able to choose an almost identical team as the last game, with the addition of returning guard Jack Dyer.

The Huskies started the game with a swarming man-to-man defence, limiting the Capitals to forced shots and enabling the Huskies to use their pace to score uncontested lay-ups. Dyer and Jake Hollings were unstoppable, scoring the majority of the teams' 26 first quarter points.

This set the tone for the rest of the game – these two Huskies had a field day against an inexperienced Capitals side, both scoring at will.

However, the Huskies defensive play lacked the intensity of the first quarter, which enabled the Capitals to stay within reach. At half-time, the Huskies had a 48-32 lead.

A change in defence for the third quarter sealed the win early for the Huskies – they outscored their opponents 29-9, taking a lead of 77-41 going into the final quarter.

James French provided a spark off the bench, scoring nine points, but more importantly, playing outstanding, aggressive defence.

The fourth quarter allowed the Huskies to rotate their bench, giving an opportunity for young Nick Allsop to score his first points for the club. Huskies took the win 103-66.

Afterwards, coach Cooper said: "I'm very pleased with this result. Dyer and Hollings are unstoppable at this level and I'm expecting great things from them this season.

"I was also pleased to see French come on and change the game. We still have work to do, but I'm very optimistic about this season."

On Tuesday, the Huskies first team took on the Capitals first team. This was the teams' first game since the end of last season but it didn't show as they started at a blistering pace, outscoring the Capitals 23-10 in the first quarter.

Lloyd Roberts and Elliott Thomas scored 19 points between them and the whole team played outstanding defence against a much bigger side.

The second quarter was a carbon copy of the first, Roberts dominating the game and Jack Dyer also running the fast break to good effect.

The Huskies' solid and aggressive defence set up the offence, with Chris Gibbons a rock at the back. The first half ended with the Huskies leading 45-19.

The third quarter enabled the Huskies to practise alternative defences. Although not as effective as the first half, they still went into the fourth quarter with a 70-35 lead – Roberts and Thomas continued to dominate offensively.

The fourth quarter itself was a formality, with the Huskies bench used to gain valuable playing time.

Final score 86-55 to the Huskies.

Further club details are available at www.barryhuskies.net

Evan's open day attracts the great and the good

LLANCARFAN trainer Evan Williams welcomed all his owners and their friends to his recent annual Owners' Day to celebrate the yard's success of the past National Hunt season.

This year, glorious sunshine prevailed throughout the day and around 200 racing enthusiasts turned up – including one fellow I was talking to from Ireland – to have a tour of the stable and see the grand parade of horses.

The Aberogwrn Farm training centre had some memorable moments last year, sending out 72 winners.

ON AND OFF THE TURF with Brian Lee

Looking fit and well for another crack at the world's greatest steeplechase, the Aintree Grand National, was stable star *State Of Play*, who finished a good fourth in last year's renewal and who had earlier landed the Charlie Hall Chase at Wetherby.

Also in attendance was *State Of Play's* sporting owners, Angela and William Rucker.

Local owners, Ian and Mary Brice, supporters of Evan ever since he took out a trainer's licence, were also there to see their three horses – the home-bred *Alarming Alacrity*, *Cool Cliche* and *Dantari*.

David Brace and his wife Dawn, sponsors of the prestigious Dunraven Bowl at Chepstow, were also there to lend their support, while Geraint Price came from west Wales to have a look at his German-bred *Fight Club*.

Evan said: "It was a very proud moment for us in June when we created history by winning the first race held at the new Ffos Las Racecourse. (This was with Hywel Jones's *Plunkett*).

"We enjoyed some memorable moments during the 2008/9 season with *State Of Play*, *Simarian* and *Deep Purple*, and the exciting prospects we have in the yard fills us with enthusiasm as we start to lay out our plans for the coming months ahead."

Evan, always quick off the mark to give credit to his staff, added: "I would also like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to my team who have performed to the very highest level. Their selfless application throughout the cold winter months and their enthusiasm for the job and their sheer hard work has been excellent."

Llandow Go Kart racing goes on air

S4C's motorsport series *Ralio+* follows two youngsters from west Wales as they compete in a special motoring event in Llandow, today (Thursday) at 9.40pm.

James and Harry Williams, aged 11 and 9, will be racing go karts in the competition. Racing runs in the Williams' family as their father, Mark, is a former rally driver.

Presenter Emyr Penlan, said: "Go Karts are the first stop for any wannabe racing driver – from Formula 1 to rallies. It's in the go karts that young drivers learn the tricks of the trade and learn about grip, how to handle cars and more importantly develop a competitive edge.

"Let's not forget that the likes of Lewis Hamilton started off driving go karts, so remember the names James and Harry Williams.

BARRY PLASTICS LADIES SECTION BOWLS

Club's season comes to a sunny end

THE ladies section had plenty to celebrate in their 40th years party, which was marked by afternoon tea.

Many past members were made most welcome and we hope they enjoyed their tea and chat afternoon.

On the bowling front, the evening league ladies won their Glamorgan section games, then had to play Mackintosh ladies in the semi-finals.

After quite a tussle, the next challenge was against Gilfach Bargoed, who well and truly beat us in our last meeting, but the girls won on both rinks to take the title.

Thanks must go to the ladies who helped us on our way by being there when we needed them.

In the ladies double rink, a presentation afternoon was held recently. BP Ladies were the hosts and also the winners.

The club was also well represented in the Glamorgan and Welsh competitions, with Ann Dainton winning the triples.

Our finals day was fine and dry, but the wind hampered the players quite a bit. At one stage, it was strong enough to blow someone off the mat!

The bowling was of a very high standard with lots of tight finishes, and the results were:

Ladies champion: Y Lloyd, runner-up: C Jenkins; **ladies pairs –** winners: Y Lloyd/M Matthews, runners-up: B Page/R Williams; **ladies two wood**: Mo Clarke, runner-up Y Lloyd; **handicap:** L Woodcock, runner-up: Val Morgan.

Men's champion: M Clarke, runner-up: A Dare; **two wood**: M Clarke, runner-up: E Roberts; **handicap**: Bob Matthews, runner-up: M Jones; **pairs:** Bob Matthews/B Curtis; **mixed pairs** winners: M and B Matthews, runners-up: Val and Mal Morgan.

The end of our season saw us host the Cadoxton pairs, a competition involving Barry Central Ladies, Cadoxton Ladies and BP Ladies, a day that is very popular and was played in glorious sunshine.

The winners were Val Morgan/Moya Slee, runners-up: M Paterson/C Harris.

Thanks to all who helped the day go well.

MD

Tom gains first win on the flat

TOM DAVID, from Llanharan, came in for plenty of praise from trainer David Evans after winning the Haliwels Amateur Riders Handicap on his *No Wonga* at Haydock Park last week.

No Wonga, who scored by three lengths from *Lamdama Bay,* was a last-minute lucky chance ride for Tom who rides out at Tim Vaughan's Aberthin yard.

He is better known as a jumps jockey and last season rode two point-to-point winners for Princess Anne, both trained by her daughter Zara Phillips.

Rhoose Lifeguard members make the Welsh teams

RHOOSE Lifeguards have congratulated members who made the development squad from which the Welsh junior and senior teams were announced at the recent Welsh Championships held in Porthcawl.

Thirteen members of Rhoose Lifeguards secured places in various teams.

Junior team: Lucy Curtis, Lana Evans, Jack Giddings, Sean Giddings, Charlie Grandfield, Dan Owen, Rhys Perry, Simon Perry, Alex Varney and Anthea Young.

Senior team: Lana Evans and Leanne Martlew.

Senior development team: Lucy Curtis, Jack Giddings, James Grandfield and Tanara O'Neill.

Dedication and hard work has rewarded these youngsters their places in the Welsh Team. The club is very proud of you all and wish you well in future events.

ELAINE EDGERTON

THREE DAYS AT THE ABBEY

Cottrell ladies enjoy relaxing golf holiday

ABOVE: Cottrell Park ladies at the Abbey Golf Club.

TWENTY-EIGHT Cottrell Park ladies travelled to the Midlands for a three-day golfing break at the Abbey Golf Club, Redditch,earlier this month.

The first day was a Texas Scramble, after bacon rolls on arrival, and it started with Mary Watkins having hysterics on the first tee as she was greeted by a large snake, thought to be an adder but later identified as a grass snake.

Once the snake had been dispatched by the club professional, the competition continued – the winning team consisted of Sandra Collin, Sara Williams, Chris John and Gill Downs with net 71.5, closely followed by Vicki Long, Patricia Haines, Louise Case and Tessa Matthews with net 72.

The second day was the main competition, with a team Stableford and also an individual competition for the Lady Cottrella trophy, which was won by Patricia Haines with 32 points.

The first team winners were Margaret Thomas, Patricia Haines, Carole Aitken and Jan Cosby with an excellent 93 points.

Longest drive, handicap 10-25: Carole Aitken and handicap 26-36 Lorraine Pointon-Bell.

Nearest the pin: Angela Padfield. The only two scored on the challenging par threes was by Margaret Rees.

The final day was a four-ball, better-ball competition, won by Vicki Long and Chris John with 41 points, second were Carol Bunyan and Patricia Haines with 40 points.

The course was long and although fairly flat, quite challenging, especially the tricky par threes, which all had water to negotiate.

It was very enjoyable with plenty of nature to observe, including swans with signets, moorhens and ducks. One lady even claims to have seen a red squirrel.

There was a very handsome bull in the field adjoining the golf course who kept his eye on the proceedings.

While most of the ladies relaxed in the bar in their free time, a few energetic ones used the gym and swimming pool.

All enjoyed excellent meals and accommodation and there was prizegiving each day by the ladies' captain, Margaret Thomas, supported by the vice-captain Lorraine Pointon-Bell.

The ladies returned tired but happy after a very pleasant break and thanked the lady captain for organising the trip.

She in turn thanked all who helped and supported her, especially Jenny McGlyne, who organised the competitions each day.

CB

Margaret Thomas, ladies captain.

Patricia Haines with the Lady Cottrella trophy.

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BRIDGEND COLLEGE STUDENTS TAKE THEIR PLAY TO LONDON

BRIDGEND College Drama Dept HND Community Theatre is taking its successful play to a London fringe theatre on September 30, as part of the 'World March for Peace and Non Violence'.

A spokeswoman for the college said: 'The Word @ War', a premiere for Bridgend College, written and directed by Katie Marks in collaboration with scriptwriter Carmen Medway-Stephens, provided a platform for HND Community Theatre students to demonstrate their excellent devising and acting skills.

"The play exposed the brutality of wars through the eyes of the 'computer' people, the 'central administrators' who, in the future, are responsible for 'filing' war.

"It was a visual feast that stunned audiences with use of humour, dance, media projection, singing and music to portray the dark side of humanity.

"Some scenes had the audience shell shocked with graphic depictions of such civil wars as Vietnam, Rwanda and Bosnia. Its aim was to educate young audiences about wars they may have never heard about.

"Other scenes had the audience in stitches, such as Hitler's portrayal as a pop star, as from research it was discovered that he saw himself as a singer; but from laughter came tears as the audience recoiled when watching a scene set in the gas chambers and images were projected behind.

"In the end, the lasting images of sticks and stones to fight World War Four as red poppies dropped will be imprinted in the audience's minds forever. This show was not to sit back and relax but to sit up and think!

"The students went on a rollercoaster ride of emotions in the making of the play due to the sensitive nature of the topic, but feel they have matured and learnt a great deal from the in-depth research they had to undertake.

"They hope that audiences will really think about the questions they have posed.

"The students delivered the performance to an exceptional standard and received a standing ovation. It comes at the end of a very successful year, having previously adapted *A Midsummer Night's Dream.*

"This play has been produced in conjunction with, and dedicated to, 'The World Peace March' a huge initiative that will cover the whole globe this year.

"The march seeks to promote world peace without violence. It will hold anything, from barbecues to peaceful walks, and anyone can get involved – just visit the World March website to do your bit.

"Students were involved with creating a living peace sign when the World March Organisation came to the college.

"They would like to get local schools at Bridgend involved too. Contact the drama department if you would like to take part.

"The main inspiration behind the play was the fact that 10 per cent of the cost of armaments could end world hunger and poverty. Carmen Medway-Stephens, who has just started a theatre company called '1.618' based at Bridgend College under the Sherman Theatre New Artist Initiative, hopes to use the play to support her upcoming play *Tea for Two* about a Bosnian woman's struggle after the war.

"The students will now enter the play in competitions and the Edinburgh fringe.

"In September, the college will be offering a foundation degree in drama in conjunction with the University of Glamorgan.

"This year the students have had the experience of meeting Wyndham Price, writer and director of new Welsh film, *Abraham's Point*.

"Places are still available; contact Bridgend College to apply.

Local bodyshop technician wins industry award

RICHARD KENDRICK from Motorvation Body Repairs Ltd in Bridgend, a BSI Kitemark certified bodyshop, has scooped the 'panel technician of the year' award at the Bodyshop Magazine awards, held at the Hilton Birmingham Metropole on September 11.

The awards recognise excellence and innovation in and around the motor trade and are the benchmark of bodyshop industry success.

Judges identify the 'best-of-the-best' from hundreds of nominees.

The technicians' skills were put to the test with a series of practical assessments that included MIG and spot welding to BSI standards, rectification of panel damage and removal and refit of welded and bolted panels.

As well as hands-on tasks, technicians completed an online ATA assessment as part of the overall ATA accreditation process.

To earn the BSI Kitemark, vehicle body repair shops must prove that they conform to tough new standards set down in PAS 125. These include strict requirements that focus on skills, repair methods, equipment and materials.

In addition, workshops must demonstrate that they have repair process management controls in place to monitor activities.

All these elements are then assessed by independent BSI inspectors and must meet stringent benchmarks to be awarded the valuable BSI Kitemark licence.

Richard Kendrick commented: "I was very proud to win this award as the competition was of a very high standard. At Motorvation we have a comprehensive training plan to meet the needs of our manufacturer approvals and our BSI Kitemark certification. I am sure this training helped me in gaining this award."

Opera stars to teach Cefn Cribwr to sing

EXPERTS from Welsh National Opera are coming to Bridgend to help get the town in tune.

On Saturday, October 17, Kate Woolveridge and Miriam Bowen will be at the Bethlehem Church Life Centre in Cefn Cribwr, running a day-long free singing workshop.

No experience or musical ability is needed – pre-book a place by calling 029 2063 5062 or e-mail claire.cressey@wno.org.uk

(See next week's GEM for more details).

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HOLTON ROAD FC ENJOY A SUMMER'S PRESENTATION EVENING IN SULLY SPORTS

ABOVE and BELOW:* *There were plenty of happy faces at Holton Road FC's recent presentation night, which took place at Sully Sports Club. Here are two of the club's teams, pictured with their trophies after the end of another long season of football!

HOLTON ROAD FC recently held its annual presentation night at the Sully Sports Club.

A great night was had by both players and parents and they were lucky enough to have one of the very few summer evenings of this year.

It was great to see parents and players sitting in the sunshine enjoying themselves, and it wasn't long before the usual 50-a-side football game ensued.

Holton Road currently have teams from under-8s to under-16s – any new or established players, managers or teams wishing to join should not hesitate to contact: Sarah Thompson (secretary) telephone 07792 344123.

The special trophies on the night were presented as follows:

The Kevin Williams Memorial Shield (best manager) – Simon Thomas.

Under-15s – most improved: Callum Hazelton; manager's player: Luke Hanlon; players' player: Luke Llewellyn-Davies.

Under-13s – most improved: Calvin George; manager's player: Travell Konten; players' player: Sam Thompson, Jake Briscombe.

Under-11s – most improved: Scott Morris; manager's player: Kieren Miller; players' player: Harri Owens, Jordan Turner.

Under-10 Panthers – most improved: Luke Barrow; manager's player: Ben Rose; players' player: Ben Rose.

Under-10s Devils – most improved: Katie Chatwell; manager's player: Sean Bruce; players' player: Jake Pereira.

Under-9s – most improved: Kyle Harding; manager's player: Bradley Payne, players' player: Bradley Payne.

Under-8s – most improved: Jack Cummings; manager's player: Lewi Georgiou; players' player: Ewan Griffith.

ST

VALE PACT MEETINGS

STANWELL PACT, Elfed Avenue United Church, Penarth, September 25, 7pm
BARUC PACT, Barry Island Community Centre, September 26, 3pm.
WENVOE PACT, Community Hall, September 28, 7.30pm.
ILLTYD PACT, Mount Sorrel Hotel, Porthkerry Road, Barry, October 1, 7pm.
COWBRIDGE PACT, town council offices, October 5, 7.30pm.
COWBRIDGE coffee and chat meeting, White Lion public house, Ystradowen, October 6, 11am.

If you have any issues that are affecting your quality of life, but are unable to attend a meeting, contact your local Neighbourhood Policing or log onto www.ourbobby.com

Moment of magic from substitute Bell wins game for Barry Town

THIRD Division Risca were the visitors to Jenner Park on Saturday.

Barry manager Gavin Chesterfield rang the changes, bringing in Macedonian teenager Tomas Llivenski for his home debut, moving Lewis Cosslett, normally a left back, into the centre half position and playing midfielder Nickie Jones in an unaccustomed left back role.

With striker Sam Small also back, there were signs of confidence returning to the team after last week's second half debacle.

BARRY TOWN	**1**
RISCA	**0**

Young Llivenski showed he certainly has something to offer the team. Exhibiting good vision, he excited the home fans on several occasions by delivering some astute passes through the middle of a strong Risca defence, well marshalled by central defender Blaine Llewellyn.

With a few more games under his belt, Llivenski could develop into the creative player missing since the departure of Jamie Bradford to Haverfordwest.

With possession constantly changing, and the game going from end to end in the first half, it came as a surprise that the score remained goalless at half time.

Barry started the second half in determined fashion, Rob Blatchford's pace helping to create several chances for the forwards, which were denied by the Risca 'keeper, who made a number of saves.

Risca played the game the right way,and at times over the 90 minutes they matched the Dragons with their approach play, but could not get past the new-look back four of Jason Davies, Lewis Cosslett, Dan Clair and Nickie Jones.

With the match looking certain to go into extra time, in the 88th minute Barry's young striker Josh Bell juggled the ball on both feet before guiding a volley into the top corner past the astonished Risca 'keeper.

Tomorrow night (September 25), will see Afan Lido visit Jenner Park (kick-off at 7.45pm).

Champion raises the bar – yet again!

WELSH powerlifting champion Geraint Nicholas was at it again last weekend in the GBPF British Deadlift Championships at the Shenley Leisure Centre, Milton Keynes.

Geraint, from the Bridgend area, weighed in at 89.6kg and pulled all three attempts 230kg, 252.5kg and 265kg.

At 46 years old Geraint, who is sponsored by sports specialist LA Muscle, is a former world champion powerlifter who has broken numerous records, including the national record at the 2006 Welsh Powerlifting Championships in Swansea.

On Sunday, he won the over-40s Masters 90kg class, and finished second in the class overall. With no time to waste, Geraint is preparing to do it all again at the WSA Welsh Championships in November.

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06 **56 BMW 116i SE 5-dr hatchback** in sparkling graphite with network anthracite interior, alloys, climate control, cruise control, multi function steering wheel, auxiliary/ipod output, rear parking sensors, only 25,780 miles **£11,995**

05 **05 MERCEDES Benz 1.8 SLK 200 Compressor Auto 2-dr Convertible** in Tellur silver, black leather interior, climate control, multi function steering wheel, CD, alloys, only 61,000 miles....**£16,995**

05 **05 BMW X3 2.0d SE** in topaz blue with full beige Dakota leather, heated seats, side steps, front and rear parking sensors, multi function steering wheel, cruise control, automatic air conditioning, only 71,059 miles....**£13,995**

05 **55 VOLVO S40 2.0 Diesel SE** in Amethyst with Ivory Leather interior, cd, alloys, cruise control, electric sunroof, electric seats, only 34,255 miles....**£9,995**

04 **54 MERCEDES Benz CL500 5 litre 2-dr Auto coupe.** In tanzanite blue with java leather interior with BOSE sound system, AMG body styling, electric sunroof, only 48,245 miles....**£19,995**

03 **03 MERCEDES S320 CDi Auto** in Chalcendony blue met with Alpaca leather interior, electric memory seats, sunroof, full Mercedes Command system, climate control, only 69,792 miles....**£14,995**

SPORTS

07 **57 FORD Focus 2.5 ST-500 225 SIV 5-Dr Hatchback.** In metallic black with red leather interior, Recaro heated seats, solar reflect windshield, Sony in dash 6-CD changer, 18" alloy wheels, rear parking sensors, Bluetooth hand free, only 8,925 miles....**£14,995**

07 **07 PEUGEOT 207 1.6 HDi Sport 3-Dr Hatchback.** In Onyx black with Madrid black/grey interior, air con, CD, ally wheels, front fogs, colour coded bumpers, only 29,405 miles **£8,495**

06 **56 RANGE ROVER Sport TDV6 HSE** in met silver with full anthracite interior, heated seats, electric memory seats, satallite navigation with bluetooth phone, Harman Kardon stereo, 20inch alloy wheels, side steps, full Land Rover service history, only 56,101 miles **£29,995**

06 **56 MINI One 1.6 Convertible (Pepper Pack)** in black, with full black leather interior, heated seats, trip computer, parking sensors, exterior chrome package, one owner, only 22,919 miles **£10,995**

06 **56 VAUXHALL Astra 1.6i 16v SXi Sport Hatch.** In sapphire black with vent black interior, sports suspension, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, air con, CD, only 35,010 miles....**£7,995**

05 **05 MINI 1.6 Cooper S (Chilli Pack).** Black, black leather interior, a/c, alloys, cd, rear parking sensors, only 49,390 miles **£11,995**

04 **54 TOYOTA Celica 1.8 VVTi Premium Coupe.** In crystal silver with Montreal black leather interior, climate control, alloy wheels, immobiliser, deadlocks, alarm, CD, only 27,953 miles **£7,995**

04 **54 FORD Ranger 2.5 TD di XC Thunder, double cab, crew cab pick-up** in black with black leather interior, immobiliser, cd, air con, only 78,319 miles ....**£6,995 + VAT**

04 **04 PEUGEOT 307CC 2.0 16v 2-door Coupe Convertible.** In Pearlescent Maroon with grey leather interior, rear parking aid, 17" alloy wheels, 5-disc auto-changer, body coloured bumpers, only 26,790 miles....**£7,995**

04 **54 PEUGEOT 206 1.6 HDi 110bhp GTi 3-dr Hatchback.** In Sahara yellow with half anthracite leather/suede interior, digital air con, multi CD, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 22,755 miles **£6,995**

04 **04 RENAULT Clio 182 Sport 3-dr hatchback.** In met blue with half leather/suede interior, sports seats, traction control, cruise control, climate control, alloys, 6 cd auto changer, only 51,314 miles **£6,995**

W **00 MAZDA MX-5 1.8i Icon Limited Edition** In Art Vin Red with oatmeal leather interior, body coloured bumpers, alloy wheels, CD, only 79,555 miles **£4,995**

FAMILY

07 **57 FORD Focus 1.8 TDCi Style 5-dr Hatchback.** In tonic blue with heated front screen, climate control, CD, cruise control, only 16,700 miles **£9,295**

06 **06 FORD Focus C-Max 2.0 TDCi Zetec 5-dr MPV** in tonic blue with dark flint interior, cd, air con, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 31,000 miles **£5,995**

06 **06 PEUGEOT 307 1.6 16VSE 5-dr Hatchback.** In hurricane grey with Ikho black interior, front fog lights, multi CD, air con, rear parking sensors, only 40,018 miles **£6,995**

05 **55 HONDA Civic 1.6 V-Tec SE Door Hatchback.** In black with black interior, CD, air con, electric windows, alloy wheels, only 31,160 miles....**£7,495**

04 **54 MG ZR 1.4 105 5-Dr Hatchback.** In Starlight Silver with Matrix black/grey interior, alarm, immobiliser, CD, alloy wheels, only 69,700 miles....**£3,695**

04 **54 ROVER 25 1.4 Impression S3 5-dr Hatchback** in british racing green, with dark interior, alloys, electric windows, air conditioning, cd player, body coloured bumpers, only 44,162 miles **£2,995**

04 **04 FORD Mondeo 1.8 LX 5-dr Hatchback.** Stardust silver, majestic ebony interior, cruise control, heated front screen, cd, only 45,345 miles **£3,995**

04 **04 FORD Mondeo 1.8 Mistrial 5-dr.** In Tonic Blue with majestic ebony upholstery, air con, central locking, CD, alloy wheels, only 61,165 miles **£3,995**

05 **54 VW Golf 1.6 Fsi (115ps) SE 5-dr hatchback.** In New River Blue with anthracite interior, climate control, cruise control, cd, only 42,490 miles....**£7,495**

04 **04 TOYOTA Avensis 2.0 VVTi T-Spirit Auto 4-dr Saloon.** Silver fern, st moritz charcoal leather, map gps nav system, climate, cruise, electric seat adjustment, only 55,065 miles **£7,495**

04 **04 RENAULT Megane 1.9 DCi 120 Dynamique 5-Dr Hatchback.** In metallic silver, with anthracite interior, alloy wheels, CD, colour coded bumpers, air con, only 42,955 miles....**£5,995**

SMALL

08 **58 TOYOTA Yaris 1.0 VVT-I T2 5-dr Hatchback.** In crystal silver, electric windows and mirrors, CD, multi-function steering wheel, only 3,725 miles....**£7,995**

07 **07 NISSAN Micra C+C 1.6 16v Active Luxury 2-dr Convertible.** In Black with grey leather interior, climate control, alarm, CD, immobiliser, heated seats, only 10,600 miles **£9,995**

07 **07 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Extreme 3-dr Hatchback.** In metallic black with dark interior, alloy wheels, CD, body coloured bumpers, front electric windows, only 19,005 miles....**£6,495**

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06 **06 PEUGEOT 206 1.4 Verve 3-dr Hatchback.** In onyx black with madison grey interior, air con, alloy wheels, CD, low insurance, only 14,545 miles **£5,995**

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06 **56 PEUGEOT 107 1.0 12v Urban 3-dr Hatchback.** In raven black with black matrix interior, electric windows, CD, colour coded bumpers, only 16,465 miles, £35 a year tax **£5,995**

05 **55 PEUGEOT 107 1.0 12v Urban 3-dr Hatchback** in laser red with matrix black interior cd, e/w, c/l, immobiliser, only 28,990 miles. £35 per year road tax **£4,995**

05 **05 PEUGEOT 206 1.4 16v Sport 5-dr Hatchback** in aluminium silver with dark interior, cd, alloy wheels, air con, immobiliser, only 31,000 miles **£5,995**

05 **05 RENAULT Megane 1.5 DCi 80 Dynamique 3-Dr Hatchback.** In metallic silver with anthracite interior, CD, air con, front fogs, £35 a year road tax, only 90,495 miles **£5,495**

04 **04 MINI 1.6 Cooper Pepper 3-dr Hatchback.** In chilli red with half leather interior, rear spoiler, alloy wheels, air con, only 50,170 miles **£7,495**

04 **04 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Dynamique 5-dr Hatchback.** In Platinum silver with dark grey interior, sunroof, alloy wheels, CD, front fogs, only 37,700 miles....**£4,795**

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03 **03 PEUGEOT 206 1.1LX 3-dr Hatchback** in met blue with blue interior, air con, cd, colour coded bumpers, only 40,010 miles **£3,495**

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05 **05 MERCEDES Benz 1.8 SLK 200 Compressor Auto 2-dr Convertible** in Tellur silver, black leather interior, climate control, multi function steering wheel, CD, alloys, only 61,000 miles.....**£16,995**

04 **04 RENAULT Megane 1.9 DCi 120 Dynamique 5-Dr Hatchback.** In metallic silver, with anthracite interior, alloy wheels, CD, colour coded bumpers, air con, only 42,955 miles **£5,995**

06 **56 MINI One 1.6 Convertible (Pepper Pack)** in black, with full black leather interior, heated seats, trip computer, parking sensors, exterior chrome package, one owner, only 22,919 miles....**£10,995**

04 **04 PEUGEOT 307CC 2.0 16v 2-door Coupe Convertible.** In Pearlescent Maroon with grey leather interior, rear parking aid, 17" alloy wheels, 5-disc auto-changer, body coloured bumpers, only 26,790 miles **£7,995**

05 **05 PEUGEOT 206 1.4 16v Sport 5-dr Hatchback** in aluminium silver with dark interior, cd, alloy wheels, air con, immobiliser, only 31,000 miles....**£5,995**

02 **02 DAEWOO Matiz 0.8 SE 5-Dr.** In super red with grey interior, CD, immobiliser, body coloured bumpers, driver and passenger airbags, only 30,288 miles..... .....**£2,495**

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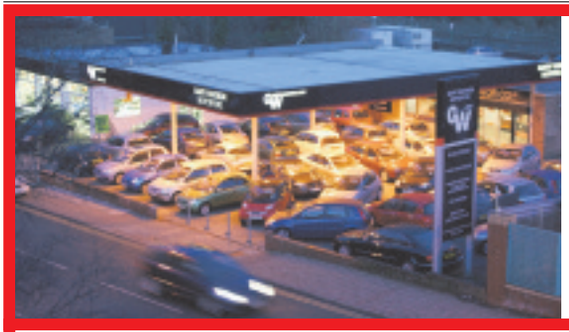

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52 MG ZR 1.4 105+ 5dr in red, with white 17" multi spoke alloys, Stunning example £2,995
V MERCEDES A160 1.6 Elegance 5dr Automatic in blue, 5dr automatic hatch covered 73,000, a/c, electric windows £2,995
03 VAUXHALL Agila 1.0 12v 5dr in blue met, ONLY 39,000 miles. FSH. 5dr, 1.0 low insurance. £2,995
04 DAEWOO Matiz 1.0 SE Plus 5dr in silver, 42k LOW INSURANCE, cheaper tax £2,800
R MG MGF 1.8 Sports 2dr in silver, 79K, with power steering, alloy wheels, remote locking £2,495
51 PEUGEOT 206 2.0 HDI 90 D Turbo (a/c) in silver met, diesel sport 3dr hatch. A/c, e/w, alloys, pas £2,495
Y FORD Fiesta 1.25 Zetec 5dr in red metallic, ONLY 66,000 miles. Beautiful condition, pas £2,495
Y FORD Mondeo 2.0 Zetec TDI 5dr in blue met, excellent condition DIESEL. A/C, alloys £2,495
Y SEAT Ibiza 1.4 16v Chill 5dr in silver met, ONLY 46,000 miles. Low insurance 1.4 5dr, A/C £2,495
58 KYMCO KR125 Sport in red/ black, ONLY 1,900 miles. 125cc Sports bike with digital display. Ideal learner bike £1,995
R BMW 535i SE Auto (lthr) E39 in green met, full biscuit leather, with a/c, climate, phone, loaded £1,995
W RENAULT Megane 2.0 Sport Alize 3dr in grey met, part exchange to clear on a trade basis. November MOT £1,995
X FORD KA Now 1.3 3dr Red, 56,000 miles FSH, power steering, Grp 3 insurance, low tax, immaculate condition £1,795
X PEUGEOT 306 2.0 HDI LX 5dr In inka gold metallic. Extremely economical DIESEL 5dr hatch in fantastic condition. Full charcoal velour intreior, alloy wheels, remote central locking, air con, electric windows, CD player. Capable of over 50 MPG. Please feel free to contact us £1,795
W FIAT Brava 80 SX in green, ONLY 65,000 miles, lovely condition p/x to clear £1,495
R FORD Escort 1.8 GTI 3dr 68,000 mile car with service history. In Calypso blue metallic, genuine 3dr GTI completley original £1,495
N DAIHATSU Fourtrak 2.8 TDL SE Independent Finished in azurite blue metallic with charcoal cloth seats. Late generation 2.8 face lift model with electric windows, remote alarm, power steering, artificial horizon, diff lock. FULL SERVICE HISTORY in fantastic origional condition £1,495
H TOYOTA MR2 2.0 GT Twin Cam T Bar 2dr in super red, UK car, GT Twin Cam, T Bar roofs value £1,495
DATSUN Stanza 1.8 SGL 5dr in almondine red pearl. Completely original, genuine 47,000 mile, automatic example. A now, collectable, and ultra reliable japanese classic. Will not disapoint at £995
C NISSAN Cherry 1.3 SGL 3dr Completely original car covered only 31,000 miles, full service history, 12 months MOT £995
03 AUDI A4 1.8 T Convertible SE in silver, black leather/ alcantara. 71,000 miles, STUNNING ..... £POA
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CONVERTIBLES

06 **RENAULT Megane CC 1.6 Dynamique.** Finished in met black, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, electric glass roof, 29k £9295
06 **PEUGEOT 206 CC 1.6 Allure.** Finished in moonstone blue met with **full black/red leather trim**, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 56k £8195
55 **AUDI A4 2.5 TDi (Diesel) S-Line Cabriolet.** Manual, finished in met silver, with **half black leather sports trim**, alloys, a/c, cd, sat nav, 6 spd, fsh, 49k £14495
54 **RENAULT Megane CC 1.9 DCi (Diesel).** Finished in met grey, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 72k £6995
04 **PEUGEOT 307 2.0 CC.** Met black, alloys, a/c, alloys, cd, 58k £7195
03 **AUDI TT Convertible.** Mauritius blue, **full cream leather,** 9 spoke alloys, heated seats, cd, climate control £9995
52 **MG TF 1.6 Convertible.** Finished in power grey with black hood, alloys, radio/cd, fsh, 65k £4195

SPORTS/EXECUTIVE

56 **AUDI Q7 S-Line 3.0TDi (Diesel) Quattro.** Finished in met black with **black leather/suede interior**, 20" alloys, climate control, cd, 1 owner, fsh, 28k £25995
06 **VOLVO XC90 SE 2.4 D5 (Diesel) 5-dr Geartronic (185).** Finished in met black with **full black leather,** alloys, a/c, radio/cd, **7 seats**, 47k £18995
06 **BMW 320D SE (Diesel) Touring 5-dr.** Finished in black saphire met, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 1 owner, fsh, 69k £10995
06 **BMW 118D SE 5-Dr.** Finished in black, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, reverse parking sensors, 1 owner, fsh, 76k £9995
55 **LAND ROVER Discovery S 2.7 TD V6 (Diesel) 5-dr 7 seats.** Finished in met grey, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, reverse parking sensors, 50k £17495
05 **MERCEDES ML 270 CDi Auto 5-dr.** Finished in met silver, **full black leather,** alloys, a/c, radio/cd, fsh, 61k £13995
05 **AUDI TT Coupe (180).** Finished in met silver with **full black leather**, upgraded alloys, climate control, 38k £10995
05 **VOLKSWAGEN Golf 2.0 GT TDi (Diesel) (140) 5-dr.** Finished in met silver, alloys, a/c, radio, cd, multichanger, fsh, 39k £9795
05 **HONDA Civic 1.6i V-Tec Sport.** Finished in red, alloys, a/c, radio/cd £6995
05/54 **MERCEDES CLK 270 CDi (Diesel) Auto.** Finished in met black with **full black leather**, alloys, a/c,radio/cd, 59k £12995
54 **MAZDA RX8 (192) 4-dr Coupe.** Finished in Met Grey with **full black leather**, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 1 owner, fsh, 81k £7495
04/53 **MINI Cooper 1.6.** Finished in met blue, white roof, white alloys, **half leather trim**, John Coopers works body kit, full panoramic roof, chilli pack, radio/cd, 51k £7995
04 **BMW X3 2.5 SE 5-dr.** Finished in ice blue met, **full black leather**, 20" chrome alloys, M-series body kit, a/c, radio/cd, pdc, 37k £13495
04 **FORD Sport Ka 1.6.** Finished in met. Grey with sports cloth trim, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 30k £3695
53 **BMW X5 4.4i V8 Sport.** Finished in met blue with **full black leather**, alloys, climate control, comms pack, nav colour-tv, radio/cd multichanger, full main dealer history, 51k £13795
53 **VOLKSWAGEN Golf 1.9 GT TDi (Diesel) 5-dr.** Finished in met silver, alloys, a/c, cd, 67k £6295
03/52 **MERCEDES S 500 Auto Limousine.** Finished in met silver with **full grey leather** AMG alloys, sat nav-tv, sunroof, climate control front + rear, to many extras to list, ring for full description, 90k £10795
03 **MINI 1.6 Cooper.** Finished in met blue, alloys, a/c, cd multichanger, 46k £6995
52 **MERCEDES ML 270 CDi Auto.** Finished in ink black, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, cruise control, fsh, 72k £10495
52 **PEUGEOT 206 GTI 2.0 3-dr.** Finished in china blue met, **leather/suede interior**, pas, alloys, climate, cd £3995
02 **AUDI TT 180.** Finished in met silver with **full black leather**, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 80k £8295
02 **MERCEDES C320 Elagance Auto 4-dr.** Finished in met silver with **full black leather**, alloys, a/c, cd multichanger,95k £6295
Y **PEUGEOT 206 GTI 2.0 3-dr.** Finished in met silver, **black leather trim**, alloys, climate, cd, 36k £3495

4x4 / MPV / ESTATE

07/56 **VW PASSAT Estate 2.0 Sport TDi 170 (Diesel) DSG Auto 5-dr.** Finished in met black, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, fsh, 82k £10295
56 **AUDI Q7 S-Line 3.0TDi (Diesel) Quattro.** Finished in met black with **black leather/suede interior**, 20" alloys, climate control, cd, 1 owner, fsh, 28k £25995
06 **VOLVO XC90 SE 2.4 D5 (Diesel) 5-dr Geartronic (185).** Finished in met black with **full black leather,** alloys, a/c, radio/cd, **7 seats**, 47k £18995
06 **BMW 320D SE (Diesel) Touring 5-dr.** Finished in black saphire met, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 1 owner, fsh, 69k £10995
55 **CITROEN VTR Estate 1.6 HDi (Diesel).** Finished in met grey, alloys, a/c, cd, 63k £6495
55 **LAND ROVER Discovery S 2.7 TD V6 (Diesel) 5-dr 7 seats.** Finished in met grey, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, reverse parking sensors, 50k £17495
55 **PEUGEOT Partner Totem 1.9 (Diesel) 5-dr.** Finished in met ice blue, pas, c/l, e/w, cd, 33k £5495
55 **VAUXHALL Meriva 1.4 Life 5-dr.** Finished in met black, pas, c/l, e/w, radio/cd, a/c £5195
05 **MERCEDES ML 270 CDi Auto 5-dr.** Finished in met silver, **full black leather,** alloys, a/c, radio/cd, fsh, 61k £13995
05 **VOLVO V50 2.5 (Diesel) S Estate.** Finished in met. red with **beige leather,** alloys, a/c, cd, 66k £8995
04 **BMW X3 2.5 SE 5-dr.** Finished in ice blue met, **full black leather**, 20" chrome alloys, M-series body kit, a/c, radio/cd, pdc, 37k £13495
04 **VW SHARRAN 1.9TDi (Diesel) SE Auto.** Finished in met silver, alloys, climate, radio/cd, privacy glass, **7 seats,** 75k £6995
04 **CITROEN C8 2.0 16v LX 5-Dr.** Finished in met grey, pas, c/locking, e/windows, air con, radio/CD, electric rear doors, 7 seats, FSH, 65k £5795
04 **PEUGEOT 307 2.0 HDi (Diesel) S 5-dr Estate.** Finished in met blue, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 66k £4995
53 **BMW X5 4.4i V8 Sport.** Finished in met blue with **full black leather**, alloys, climate control, comms pack, nav colour-tv, radio/cd multichanger, full main dealer history, 51k £13795
03 **FIAT Multipla 1.6 ELX 5-dr.** Finished in met silver, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, **6 seats** £3695
52 **MERCEDES ML 270 CDi Auto.** Finished in ink black, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, cruise control, fsh, 72k £10495
02 **LAND ROVER Range Rover HSE 4.4 Auto 5-dr.** Finished in oslo blue with **full navy blenheim leather trim**, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, fsh, 87k £12695
02 **HONDA HR-V 4x4 1.6 Auto 3-dr.** Finished in met green, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 56k £4495

FAMILY CARS

57 **FIAT Punto Grande Eleganza 1.4 Auto 5-dr.** Finished in met red, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 29k £7195
07 **FIAT Punto Grande 1.2 Active 5-dr.** In new orleans blue met, pas, c/locking, e/windows, radio/cd, 10k £6495
07 **FORD Mondeo 2.2 TDCi (Diesel) Edge 5-dr.** Finished in met silver, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 82k £6495
06 **BMW 118D SE 5-Dr.** Finished in black, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, reverse parking sensors, 1 owner, fsh, 76k £9995
06 **FIAT Punto Grande 1.2 Active 5-dr.** Finished in met blue, alloys, pas, c/l, e/w, radio/cd, 22k £5695
06 **CITROEN C4 1.4 VT Coupe.** Finished in met grey, pas, r/c/l, e/w, cd, 1 owner, fsh, 37k £4995
55 **VAUXHALL Astra 1.4 Life 5-dr.** Finished in met blue, pas, c/l,e/w, radio/cd, 43k £5495
55 **VAUXHALL Meriva 1.4 Life 5-dr.** Finished in met black, pas, c/l, e/w, radio/cd, a/c £5195
05 **SEAT Altea Reference 1.6 5-dr.** Finished in met silver, pas, c/l, e/w, a/con, 34k £6495
54 **VOLKSWAGEN Golf 1.6S FSi 5-dr.** Finished in met grey, pas, c/l, e/w, air con, radio/cd, 6 speed, fsh, 65k £6695
04 **RENAULT Megane 1.6 Expression 4-dr.** Finished in met blue, pas, c/l, e/w, a/c, radio/cd, 56k £4295
53 **RENAULT Megane Expression 1.6 5-dr.** Finished in met silver, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 52k £4295
53 **FORD Mondeo Zetec 2.0 5-dr.** Finished in met. blue, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 92k £3495
03 **CITROEN C5 LX 5-Dr 2.0 HDi (Diesel).** Finished in met red, pas, r/c/l, e/w, a/c, cd, 81k £2995
03 **ROVER 75 1.8T Club SE 4-dr.** Finished in met. blue, pas, c/l, e/w, a/c, alloys £2995
51 **AUDI A4 2.0 SE (Facelift model) 4-dr.** Finished in met black with **full black leather,** alloys, climate, radio/cd, 63k £4295

SMALL CARS

56 **CITROEN C1 1.0 Vibe 3-dr.** Finished in yellow, pas, radio/cd, rear wash wipe, 43k £4995
56 **HYUNDAI Getz 1.1 GSI 3-dr.** Met ice blue, pas, c/l, e/w, a/c, cd, 27k £4695
04 **TOYOTA Yaris 1.0 T3 5-dr.** Finished in met silver, c/l, e/w, pas, 48k £4995
04 **RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Dynamique 5-dr.** Finished in met silver, alloys, a/c, cd £3995
04 **VAUXHALL Corsa 1.0 Energy.** Finished in met grey, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 42k £3995
04 **FORD Fiesta 1.25 Finesse 3-dr.** Finished in forest green, pas, cd £3995
04/53 **MINI Cooper 1.6.** Finished in met blue, white roof, white alloys, **half leather trim**, John Coopers works body kit, full panoramic roof, chilli pack, radio/cd, 51k £7995
04/53 **FIAT Punto 1.2 Active 3-dr.** Finished in lagoon blue met, pas, c/l, e/w, radio/cd, 50k £3295
53 **RENAULT Clio 1.2 Dynamique 3-dr.** Finished in red, pas, c/l, e/w, cd, 35k £4495
53 **FORD Ka 1.3** finished in met black, pas, radio/cd, alloys £3195
03 **FORD KA 1.3 Luxury 3-dr.** Finished in pepper red met with **full black leather,** alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 64k £3695
03 **MINI 1.6 Cooper.** Finished in met blue, alloys, a/c, cd multichanger, 46k £6995
52 **AUDI A2 1.4 5-dr.** Finished in garnet red, alloys, pas, c/locking, radio, cd, 60k £4495
02 **RENAULT Clio Dynamique 1.6 3-dr.** Finished in met blue, alloys, a/c, cd £2995

COMMERCIAL VEHICLES

56 **New Model FORD Transit 280 SWB Low Roof TDCi (110) (Diesel) Van.** Finished in red, pas, c/l, ply-lined side loading door, dual passenger seat, 60k ..... £6995 + VAT
56 **CITROEN Berlingo 600 LX (Diesel) van.** Finished in white, side loading door, ply lined, pas, e/w, 59k ..... £4295 + VAT

53 **BMW X5 4.4i V8 Sport.** Finished in met blue with **full black leather**, alloys, climate control, comms pack, nav colour-tv, radio/cd, multichanger, full dealer history, 51k £13795

02 **AUDI TT 180.** Finished in met silver with **full black leather**, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 80k £8295

02 **HONDA HR-V 4x4 1.6 Auto 3-dr.** Finished in met green, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 56k £4495

55 **VAUXHALL Astra 1.4 Life 5-dr.** Finished in met blue, pas, c/l, e/w, radio/cd, 43k £5495

06 **RENAULT Megane CC 1.6 Dynamique.** Finished in met black, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, electric glass roof, 29k £9295

05 **MERCEDES ML 270 CDi Auto 5-dr.** Finished in met silver, **full black leather,** alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 61k £13995

03 **FORD KA Luxury 3-dr.** Finished in pepper red met with **full black leather,** alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 64k £3695

04 **PEUGEOT 307 2.0 HDi (Diesel) S 5-dr Estate.** Finished in met blue, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 66k £4995

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56 CHEVROLET Lacetti 1.6 SX
Just 9k, 1 owner + demo, a/c, alloys, cd player, plush trim, huge saving from new

51 MERCEDES ML55 AMG Auto.
80k, FSH, elec, leather, sat nav, cruise, Xenons, e/roof, side steps, nudge bar.

Y MG ZT 190+
90k, s/history, a/c, cd, 18" alloys, leather/suede sports interior

52 BMW 325i Sport Touring
71k, fsh, full leather, a/c, m tech carbon kit, alloys, reverse sensors, privacy glass

03 PEUGEOT 206 SW 1.4 HDi.
80k, lady owner, e/pack, air con, Cd player, 60mpg. £35pa to tax.

05 VAUXHALL Astra 1.8 Design Auto
45k, half leather, air con, CD system, alloys, desirable auto

06	**RENAULT Modus 1.4 Dynamique.** 20k, 1 owner + demo, a/c, alloys, cd player, unique styling	£4995
55	**MITSUBiSHI Colt 1.3 mirage.** 27k, lady owner, air con, alloys, CD system, jazzy interior, real eyecatcher!	£4995
05	**FORD Ka 1.3.** Lady owner, 17k, p/steering, ideal 1st car, low tax and insurance	£3995
54	**VAUXHALL Corsa 1.3 CDTi Design.** 45k, a/c, e/pack, cd system, alloys, nice interior, 60 mpg	£4795
54	**ROVER 25 SEi T Diesel.** 48k, a/c, alloys, cd, superb MPG, top spec	£3995
54	**VAUXHALL Meriva 1.7 CDTi Energy.** 90k, service history, alloys, air con, e/pack, spacious little car, super mpg	£3995
54	**PEUGEOT 206 1.4 Zest 2.** Lady owner, 40k, s/history, cd system, e/windows, front fogs, low tax and ins	£3995
04	**HONDA Accord 2.2 Executive CDTi.** Top of the range, full leather, low road tax, fsh	£5995
04	**FIAT Punto 1.2 8 Valve Active.** 50k, lady owner, e/pack, cd system, low tax and insurance, only	£3495
04	**PEUGEOT 307 1.6 HDi 'S' 110bhp.** 90k, service history, alloys, air con, CD player, sports trim, 55mpg. Just	£3995
03	**KIA Seoona 2.9 CRDT 7 seater.** Leather, a/c, dvd player, privacy glass, good mpg, rare	£4395
03	**VAUXHALL Vectra 2.2 SXi DTi.** 70k, fsh, alloys, a/c, cd system, superb economy, prestine condition	£3995
03	**MAZDA 6 1.8 TS Saloon.** Fsh, alloys, sports trim, cd system, a/con, japanese reliability at	£3495
03	**VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 16 Valve Elegance.** 80k, lady owner, alloys, a/con, cd system, wood trim, low insurance	£3495
52	**PEUGEOT 307 1.6 LX SW** 55k, fsh, e/pack, alloys, a/c, cd, low ins, lovely estate at	£3995
52	**PEUGEOT 206 1.4 LX** 70k, a/con, cd system, low ins	£2995
52	**RENAULT Laguna 1.9 DCi Authentique,** fsh, 45+ mpg, only	£2995
52	**HYUNDAI Accent 1.5 GSi TDi.** 1 owner, 70k, e/pack, cd, 60mpg, only	£1995
02	**MERCEDES 430 CLK Avantgarde Auto.** 90k, s/history, leather, a/con, cd system, cruise, lovely example	£6995
02	**CITROEN Saxo 1.1 Desire.** P/steering, e/pack, CD system, low tax and insurance	£2695
51	**DAEWOO Tacuma 2.0 CDX Auto.** 70k, lady owner, versatility	£2495
51	**TOYOTA Avensis 1.8 GS VVTi.** 80k, fsh, CD system, air con, plush interior, lovely example. Japanese reliability	£2695
51	**RENAULT Megane Scenic 2.0 RXE.** Fsh, full e/pack, a/con, half leather, ideal family car	£2995
51	**FORD Focus 1.4 LX 3-dr.** One owner, full e/pack, low tax & insurance, desirable at	£2995
51	**FORD Fiesta 1.3 Flight.** 72k, lady owner, p/steering, alloys, CD player, low ins, stunning	£2495
01	**VOLVO S80 2.4 SE Auto** Nice miles, FSH, leather, air con, multi cd, alloys, top spec	£2995
Y	**VW Golf 1.6 SE** FSH, lady owner, air con, CD system, full e/pack, low insurance group	£2995
Y	**VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 SXi** Lady owner, upgrade alloys, cd system, e/pack,low tax & ins	£2695
Y	**SEAT Leon 1.9 TDi S.** Nice miles, s/history, alloys, a/con, cd system, superb economy	£2995
Y	**VAUXHALL Vectra 1.8 SRi Estate.** Half leather, alloys	£1995
Y	**VOLVO S80 2.4 SE Manual.** Full leather, air con, CD system, alloys, nice example at only	£1995
Y	**VAUXHALL Vectra 1.8 Auto.** A/c, e/pack, rare!	£1495
X	**PORSCHE Boxster 2.7.** 66k, leather/alcantara trim, Khan alloys, CD system, super performance	£8995
X	**RENAULT Clio 2.0 Sport.** 80k, leather/alcantra trim, air con, alloys, CD system, front fogs	£2995
W	**CITROEN Synergie 2.0 LX.** 7 seater, full elec/pack, huge carrying capacity, viewing recommended	£2995
W	**HYUNDAI 2.0 SE Coupe.** 60k, leather, alloys, a/con, s/roof, stunning car	£2695
W	**FORD Fiesta 1.25 Zetec.** 5-dr, 80k, alloys, a/c, e/windows, low tax & ins, just	£1995
99	**SAAB 93 S Convertible.** 70k, FSH, leather, alloys, e/hood, multi cd, a/c	£2995
T	**VOLVO C70 2.4 Auto.** Half leather, alloys, a/c, cd, hard to find at	£1995
S	**98 SAAB 93 s Convertible.** 80k, FSH, leather, alloys, e/hood, cd, a/c	£2695
S	**FORD Ka 1300.** 70k, pas, jazzy trim, lovely example, low tax & ins	£1695
S	**VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 LS.** P/steering, e/pack, CD system. Ideal family hatch at	£1495
P	**TOYOTA RAV4 2.0 Auto.** 90k, lady owner, s/history, 5-door, rare 4x4 auto	£1995
N	**SAAB 93 S Convertible Auto.** leather, alloys, a/c, lady owner, nice example	£2495

51 TOYOTA Celica 190 VVTR Premium
90k, s/history, leather, e/roof, 17in alloys, rare 190 bhp model

V HYUNDAI 2.0 SE Coupe
68k, service history, alloys, leather, air con, e/roof, CD player. Rare colour.

56 VAUXHALL Vectra SRi 1.9 CDTi Estate 150 bhp Alloys, a/c, cruise, multi cd, sports trim, FVSH, 60mpg

97 PORSCHE Boxster 2.5 S manual
90k, fsh, leather, e/roof, 18" alloys

X PEUGEOT 206 2.0 GTi
70k, half leather, a/c, multi cd, alloys, ultra rare in this colour

03 FORD Fiesta 1.4 Zetec
60k, alloys, e/w, cd, sport interior, low ins

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GEM sport

PENCOED BOYS OFF TO A FLYING START

Pencoed under-14s A with coach Gareth and (right) Nathan Stroud of TVonics Solutions Ltd.

PENCOED Boys and Girls Football Club under-14s A team, who play in the Bridgend league, have been sponsored by TVonics Solutions Ltd, Pencoed, with new football kit.

The team has had a very positive start to the season by winning their first four games against Pen y Fai, Pencoed B, Wyndham and Llangewydd, and in the process have scored 28 goals with six against.

Top scorer Daniel Hesketh has netted 12 goals.

100 PER CENT RECORD IS MAINTAINED

Perfect start continues for Porthcawl Seconds

PORTHCAWL TOWN Seconds	**2**
AFC LLWYDCOED Seconds	**1**

PORTHCAWL Town Seconds maintained their 100 per cent start to the season with a hard-fought win over AFC Llwydcoed.

A sun-drenched afternoon and a smooth playing surface at Locks Lane provided the perfect conditions for Porthcawl to produce their attractive brand of football.

The home side started brightly, working the ball well and looking full of ingenuity. Porthcawl used the channels well and looked likely to open the scoring as they broke with pace and purpose.

As the heat threatened to sap the energy of the contest, both sides continued to push for an opener and Porthcawl found a breakthrough.

Busy midfielder Olly Warren, who missed the victory over Bryntirion with a concussion, marked his return to action with a well-taken strike.

Warren, a driving force in the middle, made a surging run from deep into the box to slam home a loose ball after the visitors failed to contain a fast-paced Porthcawl break.

High-flying Town continued to press after the interval, and came close to doubling their advantage when four corners in quick succession stirred panic in the away ranks and forced a headed goal line clearance.

Llwydcoed restored parity when a flowing move was neatly finished by their front man, who found a yard of space in the six-yard box to slot home.

Despite losing their lead, the home side maintained their composure and worked tirelessly to search for a second.

In the 70th minute, Porthcawl edged back in front when hard-working forward Daniel Harris picked up the ball on the edge of the 18-yard box and drove in from the right, to fire a pinpoint effort across the 'keeper from an acute angle.

The home showed a good appetite for the remainder of the contest to match Llwydcoed's repeated advances.

The visitors were for the most part restricted to hopeful efforts from outside the box.

Porthcawl saw out the final 20 minutes to record their second home victory in as many games.

Match-winner Olly Warren said: "Even though we're not playing to our best at times, we still pulled off a good result against a good side, which shows that we are ever improving as a team."

The Seasiders travel to neighbours Pontyclun this Saturday. **MP**

GEM Quiz League questions

HERE are your four-for-thought:

1) In which part of the body are the Gluteus muscles?

2) Which 19th century British Prime Minister had an amorous reputation that earned him the nickname 'Lord Cupid'?

3) From which club did Arsenal sign Dennis Berkgamp?

4) Who, in the 1970s, was the last cabinet minister to move directly from the Foreign Office to No 10 Downing Street?

A RUDGE (Hon sec BGQL)

Answers:
1 The Buttocks.
2 Palmerston.
3 Inter Milan.
4 James Callaghan.

Athletic Seconds are in top form

BRIDGEND Athletic Seconds proved too strong on the day, running in 10 tries against Kenfig Hill Seconds.

The Mules started the stronger and forced a penalty to take a three-point lead after five minutes. However, this was short lived as the Athletic pack took control and from then on it was backs to the wall for the Kenfig Hill defence.

Scrum half Aled Thomas opened the Athletic account with an opportunist solo try converted by Tom Coles.

Further tries by S Owens, Tom Howells and Johnny Nation gave the Athletic a 26-3 half time lead.

The Athletic started the second half with the same purpose, resulting in second tries for Owens and Nation and tries for Carle Ellis, Nick Hinton, Chris Harries and Tom Cole.

Outside half Tom Cole kicked nine conversions

Final score: Bridgend Athletic 68, Kenfig Hill 3.

CORUS WITHSTAND LATE PRESSURE

The old boys come back to haunt Bridgend Athletic

BRIDGEND ATHLETIC	**20**
CORUS	**24**

by MARK DAVIES

On yet another glorious September afternoon, the Athletic entertained Corus in their third league game of the season.

It was defeat by Corus that resulted in the Athletic's relegation to Division Two 18 months ago, and the home side were keen to make amends.

Also in the ranks of the visitors were two former players from youth and senior ranks, 21-year-olds Scott Robinson and Simon Evans.

While the Athletic are always pleased to see products of the club in action for other teams, it would prove to be a bitter sweet return, as the two contributed 19 points to the visitors between them!

Corus are renowned for having one of the biggest packs in Division One and the Athletic coaches had devised a game plan to try to offset this huge physical advantage. Part of that plan was to match their opponents early on and then to expand the game into the open spaces.

The early exchanges were indeed fairly even, but at an Athletic scrum 40 metres from their own line, the visitors' juggernaut pack drove back the lighter Athletic eight and turned the ball over.

The Corus No 8 picked up and ran at the defence, who all bought a simple dummy for him to run unopposed all the way to the line for the opening score, converted by Robinson.

Corus renewed the pressure from the kick-off and harried the home defence mercilessly. Bridgend Ath No 8 Jonny Jones, who was so influential against the Ravens, had to leave the field and was replaced by the dynamic Matthew Hillman.

Corus continued to exert pressure until a loose kick out of defence fell to Evans, who coolly dropped a goal. It was now the Athletic's turn to exert some pressure of their own, only for a relieving kick by Corus to be missed by full-back MacCausland, who was looking into the sun.

As centre Rob Coles was caught in possession, he gave away a penalty which Robinson again converted. The Athletic were 13 points down with less than 20 minutes gone – not the start they wanted!

At last, the Ath began to sustain longer periods of pressure and when Robinson was caught in possession by the scavenging Chris Whitcombe, the visiting flanker dived in to seal off the ruck. Stuart Morris kicked the goal from 47m.

Each side had a missed kick at goal, followed by a monster kick from half-way by Robinson, which bounced over off the crossbar.

With half-time approaching, the splendid Sean Williams took a great catch from the kick out and the Athletic forwards drove forward doggedly, forcing Corus to concede a penalty which was kicked by Morris. The home team were pleased to have turned around only 10 points down.

There must have been strong words from the coaches at half-time, as it was an invigorated and altogether more purposeful Athletic team that tore into their opponents from the restart. A number of good opportunities were created, but Corus were often able to drive their way out of defence through their pack.

Against the run of play, and as the result of a loose tap by the Athletic at a lineout, Corus poured through towards the home line and the ball was quickly transferred to Evans, who darted over from 20 metres to put the visitors 17 points clear as Robinson converted.

However, the Athletic refused to roll over and a great bout of interpassing and hard running resulted in the tireless Williams racing over for Morris to convert. The Athletic continued in this high tempo mode, and the opposition were visibly wilting under the pressure.

Another slick interchange of passes set up a ruck from which returning fly-half Steve Lewis drew the Corus back line, and a flat pass to Dan Apsee allowed the flanker to gallop over from 25 metres out and score with a dive that would have done credit to young Olympian Tom Daley.

Morris's conversion made the score Athletic 20 Corus 21 and the home supporters sensed an unlikely victory.

However, Corus were not to be denied. They rallied and forced a penalty to extend their lead to four points.

Despite a valiant effort in the closing minutes, the Athletic could not regain the impetus they had had earlier in the half and Corus hung on for victory, with the Athletic gaining a losing bonus point.

The Athletic can take heart from their second half performance as they prepare to visit aspirational Tonmawr next week, but cannot afford to give any opposition a headstart in this league.

Development XV bounce back against Tondu

PENCOED DEVELOPMENT	**32**
TONDU SECONDS	**18**

PENCOED bounced back from their opening league defeat at Kenfig Hill to run out convincing winners by 32-18.

Tries came from Liam Halse (two) Robert Hunt (two) and Christian Powell. Skipper Tom Davies added two conversions and a penalty goal.

In contrast to the previous week, regular possession was gained at the lineout, with burgeoning young talent Paul Macfarlane showing good athleticism.

At the scrummage, the Pencoed front row of Chris Hunt, Dai Clark, and Powell were dominant, with replacement Stephen Potts doing well in the unfamiliar role of hooker. The work of back row forward Leon Young also stood out.

The side welcomed back both Gareth Scully and Robert Hunt to club colours, Hunt celebrating his return with two touchdowns.

On Saturday, the team play a league match at Llanharan.

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